

## Social contract under growing strain as more unions attack

Joseph Gormley, the miners' and Vauxhall shop stewards' voices yesterday to the labour for an end to wage when the pay policy in July. Increasing signs of a facing the social contract

prompted the Prime Minister to appeal in the Commons for trade unionists to be patient. He said a third year of restraint in pay demands was inevitable if more inflation and unemployment were to be avoided.

## Mr Gormley fears pit defections

lating the protests of the rank and file.

Vauxhall conveners from three key motor industry unions—the engineering workers, the electricians and plumbers, and the transport workers—added their voice to the growing clamour for an end to pay restraint, allying themselves with shop stewards at British Leyland and Ford.

The Vauxhall Combine Committee, covering plants employing 30,000 men at Luton, Dunsfold and Ellesmere Port, expressed "full support" for the demand for a return to free collective bargaining in August, when phase two of the present income policy has expired. The committee said: "We can no longer stand by and see our members' living standards drop in an all-time low while prices are allowed to reach an all-time high."

"In the coming weeks we resolve to contact our colleagues at British Leyland, Fords and Chrysler with a view to putting a united policy at shop-floor level for a return to a free and collective system within British industry."

There are also signs of growing disenchantment with the social contract in the Post Office, and even the relatively small National Union of Bank Employees decided at its executive meeting yesterday not to support another instalment of the pay policy if it did not provide for the maintenance and improvement of salary differentials.

Mr David Basnett, leader of the General and Municipal Workers' Union and one of the TUC's six negotiators with the Government, used unusually strong language in a speech

setting out his conditions for the renewal of the social contract.

He called for job-creation and preservation schemes and reversal of the deflationary impact of the July and December public spending cuts so that spending could be increased on housing, transport, roads, schools, hospitals, and the nationalised industries.

As if his remark two days ago that "third year of pay restraint could not be negotiated" was not enough, Mr Frank Chapple, the electricians' leader, stirred the pot further yesterday with a demand that early retirement should not be restricted to underground workers in the mines.

He said in his union's journal that many more workers should be entitled to early retirement after many years in conditions just as hazardous as those of the miners.

The trade union movement should make it clear, as a matter of policy, that in all those occupations, where the hazards are similar to those of underground miners, and there are a great many, 20 years in such an occupation ought to qualify the occupant for early retirement", he wrote.

The early retirement deal in the coalmining industry, due to come into effect on August 1, allows men with 20 years underground service to leave the pits at the age of 62 on four fifths of their take-home pay.

The scope for such agreements when the present income policy expires on July 31 is one of the issues being considered by the TUC's six negotiators.

Leading article, page 15  
Engineering union leaders, page 17

## mission rless on stic gas rises

By Our Political Editor

The Prime Minister yesterday warned the Commons and the country as a whole that a third year of pay restraint is inevitable if there is not to be a new stimulus to inflation and consequent rises in unemployment.

Mr Callaghan was speaking to the House at question time in the wake of a statement by Mr Joseph Gormley, the miners' leader, that Labour would lose the next general election unless it ended pay curbs.

"This third year on which we are asking the British people to embark", Mr Callaghan said, "will probably be the most difficult of all because people are inevitably impatient, and I understand it. But there is no better way, and nobody has been able to point one out, certainly not the Opposition."

I agree that the trade union leaders are going to have a difficult time this year in trying to convince their members of the benefit of this inevitable policy, which must succeed. We must all work to that end, and I intend to do all I can to make it succeed."

The Government's first task must be to ensure that the rate of inflation does not increase; indeed, that it substantially diminishes. That means policies for industrial investment and regeneration and, more especially, another round this year of wage restraint that would enable the Government to make sure inflation went down.

Behind the scenes at Westminister, it became clear that Mr Callaghan had not gone into his question time with any set-piece answer about pay restraint. He begins to feel the rising pressure among union leaders for a return to free collective bargaining and sees the risk of another inflationary explosion.

Although he has no intention of intervening yet in the Chancellor of the Exchequer's dealings with the TUC leaders in advance of the Budget, the Prime Minister seized the opportunity to make plain his personal commitment to pay curbs.

Part of the danger, as Mr Callaghan reads the future, is that euphoria will wax among unionists as they see the pound strengthening and renewed confidence lifting share prices. There might be a deepening sense that the time had come for relaxation of controls.

But senior ministers have no illusions: they accept that a long and uphill road will have to be travelled through this year and into next. The boom to that end, and I intend to do all I can to make it succeed."

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Behind the scenes at West-

## Prime Minister asks unions to be patient

From Robert Fisk

Beirut, Feb 10

Syrian troops and Palestinian guerrillas fought each other for almost three hours on the southern outskirts of Beirut this afternoon after the Syrians, who make up most of the Arab League peacekeeping force in Lebanon, apparently discovered heavy weapons hidden near the Sabra Palestinian refugee camp.

The fighting went on until nightfall when shells could still be heard falling around the camp, which is near the city's international airport.

Journalists and photographers were prevented from entering the area by Syrian soldiers. Russian-built tanks, which have been positioned around Sabra since November last year, are believed to have been used in the fighting.

A statement issued by the Arab League peace force over Beirut radio tonight said its soldiers intervened to stop a battle between "Palestinian commando organizations" near the airport. It said its troops returned fire when they came under attack themselves.

Although the broadcast did not mention the fact, one of the guerrilla groups was the pro-Syrian Palestinian Saqqa Organization, which has been involved in several battles with members of the Palestine Liberation Organization over recent months.

Syrian troops last opened fire in Beirut just before Christmas when rival Palestinian groups were fighting each other at Sabra. Tonight Saudi Arabian and Sudanese Arab League troops, who operate with the Syrians as part of the peacekeeping army, searched every car entering and leaving the city. The population, doubtless reminded of the terrible massacre of civilians by the bombing of Shiekhle, which could be heard as far away as the port, left the streets deserted.

The decisive battle between the PLO and Saqqa, however, is likely to be a pitched one, fought not in Beirut but in Cairo, where the Palestine National Council is to meet on March 12.

Castile's secret: Waldheim in Israel, page 7

## South African bishops speak out against systematic beatings and police torture

Pretoria, Feb 10.—The Roman Catholic bishops today condemned South Africa's "social and political system of oppression" and called for sweeping change to avert further bloodshed.

They also demanded an investigation of the "seemingly systematic beatings and unjustifyable shootings" during disturbances and of cold-blooded torture of detained persons.

In one of the most forthright statements issued by the church in this country, the bishops declared: "No temporary suppression by violence, nor a sharing of citizenship, can give hope of any safety for children, black or white, now growing up in the republic, and prevent the horrors of civil war in the future."

The statement was issued after a week-long meeting, in Pretoria, of the Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference attended by prelates from South Africa, Swaziland and Botswana.

The church has thus maintained its outspoken challenge



The four IRA terrorists sentenced yesterday (left to right) Harry Duggan, Hugh Doherty, Martin Joseph O'Connell, and Edward Butler.

## Two police chiefs give a warning of early IRA reprisals

By Clive Borrell  
Crime Correspondent

Sir Robert Mark, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, and Mr Kenneth Oxford, Chief Constable of Merseyside, appealed last night for people to be vigilant against possible IRA terrorist attacks.

There were dangers of reprisals, they said, after the sentencing by Mr Justice Cantley at the Central Criminal Court yesterday of four IRA men convicted on charges arising out of a terror campaign of bombings and shootings in London in 1975.

The four Irishmen were each sentenced to life imprisonment with recommendation by the judge that they should serve a minimum of 30 years in prison.

Martin Joseph O'Connell, aged 25, Edward Butler, aged 24, and Harry Duggan, aged 24, each convicted on 20 counts, were each given 12 concurrent life sentences. 21 years imprisonment for the Hilton hotel manslaughter; six 20-year

sentences; and one 18-year sentence, all concurrent.

Frank Doherty, aged 26, convicted on 18 charges, was given 11 concurrent life sentences; one term of 21 years for the Hilton hotel manslaughter; five of 20 years and one of 18 years, all concurrent.

As Mr O'Connell was taken to the cells, he shouted: "Up the Provos!" Mr Butler gave a V sign to the judge as he turned to go to the cells.

As Mr Duggan was brought into the court to hear his sentence, he said: "I am not listening to any of this English rubbish; please, I wish to make a statement from the dock."

The judge ignored him and proceeded to sentence him.

Speaking less than two hours after the terrorists had been sentenced Sir Robert Mark told reporters at Scotland Yard: "I urge you to tell your readers not to relax their vigilance, especially in the next few days. In fact, in two days' time the IRA may decide to mark in

some violent way the death of Frank Stagg."

It was just a year ago tomorrow that Frank Stagg, an IRA bomber, died in the hospital wing of Wakefield prison after going on hunger strike.

Sir Robert said: "It is just such an anniversary that the IRA may choose to mark the event with a new campaign."

Since March 1973, 276 terrorist incidents were reported in England and Wales involving the use of 315 devices, either bombs, incendiaries or parcel or letter bombs. Of those, 179 incidents took place in London, in which 194 devices were involved.

There were 14 shootings throughout the country during that time, 11 of which were in the Metropolitan Police district. During the past four years 130 IRA terrorists and 18 Protestant terrorists were charged. Nearly 50 of those were for offences committed in London.

The number of crimes of a

terrorist nature solved or cleared up was 58 per cent of the total. In that time there had been 58 deaths, 18 of them in London. The number of people injured in England and Wales was 685, 353 of them in London.

There was no cause for complacency. "There can be no assurance that terrorism will not be renewed. I urge you not to relax but to take this matter very seriously."

In Liverpool, Mr Oxford said he wanted to destroy a myth that Merseyside might be immune from IRA attacks because of the high proportion of local people with Irish connexions. The area might be selected as a revenge target by the IRA.

There is a danger that people might become complacent", he said. "There is still a danger that what has happened in London and Birmingham could happen here."

He particularly wanted to emphasize the warning during

the coming weekend, when there were obvious dangers of reprisals after the Balcombe Street semences.

Two men charged: Anthony Clarke, aged 29, of Irish birth, recently resident in Scarisbrick Drive, Norris Green, Liverpool, and Joseph McDonagh, aged 27, of Brunel Close, Anfield, Liverpool, are to appear at Liverpool Magistrates' Court today after their arrest last week following the discovery of incendiary devices, explosives, a Smith and Wesson pistol, ammunition and bomb-making equipment in Liverpool.

Sinn Fein statement: London Sinn Fein, in a statement last night, said the majority of the British people, according to an opinion poll, favoured the withdrawal of British troops from Northern Ireland. They should force politicians to carry out so that the Irish people as a whole could determine their own future.

Businessmen attacked, page 2  
IRA sentences, page 4

## Procedural wrangling delays devolution Bill

By Hugh Noyes  
Westminster

Mr Foot, Leader of the House, strongly indicated in the Commons yesterday that the Government would be prepared to concede that the proposed referendum on the devolution Bill for Scotland and Wales should be consultative and not mandatory. That would mean that they would have the same effect as the EEC referendum and the verdict of the people would have to be ratified by Parliament.

Mr Foot made his proposals, which at stage one did not commit one way or another, as a matter of principle, to the referendum. He said that the Government would facilitate any debate to allow an amendment to decide whether the referendums should be consultative or mandatory.

The battle began when Mr Maurice Macmillan submitted that a new precedent was being established by allowing amendments proposing that the provisions of a Bill should be subject to a referendum.

After the chairman, Mr Oscar Morton, had ruled that the Referendum Act, 1975, largely destroyed the basis on which previous rulings on the matter had been given, MPs on both sides were quick to point out that the EEC referendum to which the Act applied was consultative and not mandatory.

At one point the day's business was in danger of being ended when a surprise Tory move forced a division on a motion to report progress.

As Labour whip franticly rounded up their straying flock, it seemed that Mr Michael Cocks, the Government Chief Whip, might have been caught in another Tory trap. In the end the Government saved the sitting by 248 votes to 197, a comfortable majority of 51.

As the procedural battle became more and more heated, with parliamentary heavyweights joining in, including Mr Heath, the former Tory leader, Sir Peter Rawlinson, QC, the

Parliamentary report, page 8

## Jenkins pledges inquiry into beer prices

Mr Roy Jenkins, the Rhodesian Prime Minister, flew home from Cape Town yesterday, saying he was pleased with his "comical" talks with Mr Vorster, the South African Prime Minister. In Rhodesia a further 41 people have died in the guerrilla war. The funeral service for the seven missionaries murdered last week in the Sabra Palestinian refugee camp was interrupted by five angry whites who walked out when

the priest indirectly accused the Rhodesian Government of responsibility in Washington. Mr Cyrus Vance, the Secretary of State, asked Congress to ban further imports of Rhodesian chrome into the United States. According to a United Nations document, Britain has accused Russia and other East European countries of trading with Rhodesia.

Page 6

Mr Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, has referred beer prices to the Price Commission. He was replying to a debate on his message on the state of the Community earlier this week. A number of MPs seemed to feel that the president was strong on analysis but short on specific remedies to give the Community a new lease of life.

Page 5

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Page 3

Cost of security: Air fares from Britain will rise by about £1 a head next year as a result of a government decision to stop paying for airport security measures.

Page 4

Tunis: Arab pressure increases on EEC to adopt more positive positions on Arab-Israeli dispute.

Page 5

Windscale report: Deaths from leukaemia-type conditions among workers at Windscale nuclear plant cannot be considered abnormal, a report says.

Science report, page 16

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## HOME NEWS

# British Airways unions prepare demand for equal voice in main investment decisions

By Christopher Thomas

Labour Staff

Fourteen unions at British Airways are preparing a demand for power-sharing that would give them an equal voice with management in forthcoming multi-million pound investment decisions.

Leaders of a newly-formed workers' council, which will meet for the first time on February 28, are aiming at power parity with the board by the end of the year. The plan was prepared by Mr Mark Young, general secretary of the British Airline Pilots' Association.

He said yesterday: "It is not important whether the work is done by employees on the board, or whether there is some other mechanism where by they have the power to reach decisions jointly on issues that directly affect them. I do not see us putting people on the board straight away."

Some shop stewards at British Airways, including those from the Transport and General Workers' Union, the big best union in the concern, are pressing for the early introduc-

tion of worker representatives on the board, in accordance with the Bullock proposal for private industry.

The strategy will be discussed at the workers' council meeting, and talks with management will follow. The idea was put forward by Mr Young long before the Bullock proposals were published, and the suggestion for equal power-sharing, without a third independent force, appears to go further than Bullock.

Mr Young, who is also chairman of the trade union side of the National Joint Council for Civil Air Transport, added: "There is enormous pressure on the Government to implement some advanced system of worker-involvement in the nationalized sector."

He believed workers should be involved in decisions about a big development scheme for the European division of British Airways, and in vital decisions about aircraft replacement. The workers' council will concentrate on power-sharing, leaving intact the present negotiating structure on terms and conditions of employment.

## 'Harmless' toxins for sale

By our Parliamentary Staff

The group included two Cabinet ministers, Mrs Williams and Mr Benn, 16 backbenchers and two Labour peers. A third Cabinet minister, Mr Foot, has said he wants the Lords abolished.

They argued that the case for a full-scale revising Chamber had been overrated. Fewer than half the Commons Bills sent to the Lords were amended, and only a handful of amendments were anything but uncontroversial "tidying up" amendments that could be handled elsewhere.

Labour objects to the House of Lords as undemocratic with a built-in Tory majority that interferes with Labour legislation. Reform of Commons procedure, already being investigated by a select committee, and steps towards more open scrutiny of government bills are the group's answers to complaints that the Commons is often overworked.

The group rejected the idea of simply weakening the present power of the Lords. It thought it would still need to be a more representative body.

Making enough Labour peers to swamp the Conservatives would involve too much patronage. Putting European MPs and Scottish and Welsh assemblymen in the Lords would be confusing and inappropriate, and make the second Chamber feel more legitimate and hence even more truculent.

A nominated body, with representatives from various fields, would not be tempted to challenge the elected Commons, but it might be unacceptably corporatist, still subject to patronage, and unrewarding to able people.

A Chamber set up to mirror Commons party strengths would involve too much patronage. The group rules out a directly elected Chamber because it would mean too many elections for the public and would set up a body tempted to clash with the Commons.

Sentencing them at Sheffield Crown Court, Mr Justice Croome-Johnson said that nobody could have looked at photographs of the boy or listened to the evidence without a sense of horror and despair.

It was stated that the boy, Ian, aged 23, died the day after being taken to hospital looking little more than a skeleton and weighing 19lb.

## £500,000 fund to return Temple Bar

An appeal for £500,000, to pay for the moving of Temple Bar back to London, where it spanned the junction of Fleet Street and the Strand from 1672 until 1878 was launched yesterday.

The Temple Bar Trust hopes to raise £200,000 in Britain to bring Sir Christopher Wren's vandalized and decaying gateway from its present position in Theobald's Park, Hertfordshire, to a site near St Paul's.

The trust, which is chaired by Sir Hugh Wontner, has received an American pledge to raise £300,000.

## Police chief ends couple's ordeal

Armed policemen surrounded a house in Abbey Street, Ickleton, Cambridgeshire, yesterday as Det Chief Supt Charles Naan, head of the county CID, went in alone and persuaded two armed men to release Mr Keith Buckliffe and his wife, Joan, who had been held there for three hours.

The two men went to the house after a bus conductor had ejected them from his vehicle.

Later, two men were being interviewed by the police.

## Rate rise proposed

Norfolk Policy and Resources Committee is proposing a rate of 9.8 per cent from 55.2p to 60.6p in the pound. That is lower than the increases proposed by some other county authorities.

# Prisoners tell of drugging and maltreatment

By Peter Godfrey

Further evidence of inmates at Gartree maximum security prison, Leicestershire, being drugged and maltreated, and of prison officers using violence after the Hull riot has come into the hands of *The Times*.

A smuggled report from a prisoner in Gartree supports allegations published earlier this week of drugs being used to control inmates. He writes: "After several weeks of solitary confinement one man suffered mental breakdown, and was placed under the tender mercies of our medical staff, who, following the usual treatment practices, drugged him to such an extent that he failed to recognize men who knew him when they saw him in the hospital.

"As a measure of retaliation, the prisoner continues, "the officers are charging him with assault. He is in no way assaulted prison officers on that day or any other. Brutality and victimization are an everyday occurrence here, and are being covered up."

Two more reports were written in late Gartree last week. The Home Office has said that drugs are administered there

that he was imagining the pain. Subsequent X-rays revealed that his imagination was not to blame, but pneumonia was.

Another man describes an attack on a prisoner in Garree's E wing punishment block. "Prison officers came near to strangling him with a towel, beat him about the head and body. He received severe injuries." The author says that three prisoners, including two serving terms for IRA offences, wanted to be called as witnesses to the incident.

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Two more reports were written in late Gartree last week. The Home Office has said that drugs are administered there

under strict medical supervision, and that any aggrieved prisoner can take up his complaint through the usual channels.

Two more prisoners at Hull have given strikingly similar accounts of a breakfast incident after the riot there last September. One, now in Leeds prison, says: "I was kicked, kneed and punched by dozens of screws (prison officers) down three flights of stairs, and all the time their only concern was 'Don't mark his face'."

"Then came another man, and I heard a screw shout: 'Never mind, he'll bounce off the walls.' He was shoved into view and his face was smothered in red jam. A hospital screw who was standing at the foot of the stairs, thinking it was blood, ran over with a towel and wiped his face. That

is the accounts endorse earlier reports of the incident published in *The Times*.

The Home Office is still con-

ducting its own inquiry into the riot, under Mr G. W. Fowler, Chief Inspector of Prisons. In the absence of an independent investigation, the Preservation of the Rights of

Prisoners (Prop) group is trying to launch its own inquiry. A second man, writing from Leicester prison, says: "When I got to the food trolley my head was forced into a tray of jam, then I was pushed downstairs and crashed off the landing wall. One screw shouted: 'See how they bounce off the wall.'"

The prisoner also alleges that he was assaulted by several prison officers in his cell. "The door flew open and they bundled me on the floor and started to punch me in the back, kidneys. One gave me a kick between the legs which nearly caused me to faint."

The accounts endorse earlier reports of the incident published in *The Times*.

## Attempt lives of top Ulst business

From Martin Huckle

Gummen attempt to murder two leading Ireland business men, Mr Alistair aged 31, a director of McManus and Son, chain of retail shoe

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## Rise in complaints against police

By Peter Evans

Home Affairs Correspondent

The number of complaints against the police rose from 12,271 in 1971 to 19,205 in 1975, according to a parliamentary

written reply yesterday by Mr Rees, Home Secretary. But cases leading to criminal charges, including those for traffic offences, rose from only 90 in 1971 to 128 in 1975.

The number of cases determined by the Director of Public Prosecutions shows an increase in 1974 with 1,005 cases

recommended for prosecution

in 1974, with 19 leading to conviction in the whole of England and

Wales from 1,809 in 1971 to 3,131 in 1975. The figures include allegations of traffic offences.

The peak year for the Metropolitan Police, whose figures are included in the total, was 1972. The figure for the force then reached 1,005 cases determined by the DPP, compared with 713 in 1971 and 801 in

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## ME NEWS

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## NUT leader denounces teaching ginger group

By Mark Vaughan, of *The Times Educational Supplement*

Rank and File, the militant left-wing teachers' ginger group, was attacked last night by Mr. Fred Jarvis, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers.

Speaking at Ulverston, Cumbria, Mr. Jarvis condemned Rank and File as a "self-appointed politically inspired group which holds the rules and policies of the union in complete contempt."

He said the group, which promoted unofficial action, was breaking the rules of the union and challenging the basis for action laid down by the executive and approved by an overwhelming majority at the annual conference.

"This very small minority is in effect telling the majority of the members of the union what they wish to impose on the rest of the union and to make action as comply with the policies decided by the majority," Mr. Jarvis denied that the NUT was intended to unofficial action for its successful campaigns on school meal duties, the interim pay award and the London allowance.

"That is a perversion of the truth, for in each case the action taken by the membership was official action and it was approved and led by the executive of the day."

The NUT has about 299,000 members and Rank and File's 1,500 members are in about eighty groups. Mr. Jarvis described Rank and File as a political organization with no connection with the union.

Members of the National Union of Teachers are threatening to withdraw their services from schools in Hereford and Worcester next Thursday in protest against planned reductions of about £6m in the county council's education budget.

They are being asked to attend a demonstration at Hereford, where the council will consider its budget.

The NUT stated that the authority's education committee had already agreed to cuts of more than £4m, involving the loss of 180 teaching posts. If the council agreed to 65p rate further cuts of more than £2m in education would be needed. That would probably mean the loss of 450 more jobs.

## School strike planned against cuts

Members of the National Union of Teachers are threatening to withdraw their services from schools in Hereford and Worcester next Thursday in protest against planned reductions of about £6m in the county council's education budget.

They are being asked to attend a demonstration at Hereford, where the council will consider its budget.

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After mentioning specific cases, the Ombudsman discusses some of the difficulties in deciding the respective jurisdictions of the parliamentary commissioner and the courts. He notes particularly the situation sometimes experienced in deciding whether a complainant would have a remedy in the courts if alleging a lack of natural justice in the way he has been treated by a department.

Reference is also made to areas of action in planning matters where issues referred to him may be of a kind he can accept for investigation only by exercising his discretion to set aside the provisions that normally prevent him from investigating matters where a remedy is available in the courts. Sir Idwal says he will be seeking further guidance on that from the parliamentary select committee.

Second report of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration—Annual Report for 1976 (Stationery Office, 75p).

## against who promises

Reporter

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## Customers 'in danger of food poisoning'

From Our Correspondent

Customers at a restaurant specializing in old-fashioned banquets were in danger of food poisoning because of an appalling lack of cleanliness, magistrates at Selby, North Yorkshire, were told yesterday.

Fines and costs totalling £1,600 were imposed on the Tower Entertainments Group, of Leeds, which admitted 17 offences under the food hygiene regulations at its Forge Inn restaurant, near York.

Mr. John Harbottle, for the prosecution, said that health officials discovered mouse droppings, grease, old food, cobwebs and foul-smelling refrigerators.

They were horrified and considered closing the restaurant down immediately. They were told that the company had relied on kitchen staff to do the cleaning.

Mr. Michael Shepherd, for the defence, said the officers' visit resulted in an immediate board meeting, at which the chef tendered his resignation. The company had only recently acquired the Forge Inn and realized that the kitchen facilities were inadequate. It had already spent £2,000 cleaning up the kitchens which now "shone like a new pin" and planned to spend £20,000 more on improvements.

## against

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## IRA SENTENCES.

## Judge recommends that IRA bombers should serve a minimum of 30 years in prison

By Clive Borrell  
Crime Correspondent  
Mr Justice Cantley, sentencing the four Provisional IRA men who waged a campaign of bombings and shootings in Britain in 1975 to life sentences, said at the Central Criminal Court yesterday that he would recommend that they should serve a minimum of 30 years.

As each one was escorted into the dock of number 2 Court at the end of the 15-day trial the judge said: "I will recommend to the Home Secretary that you serve not less than 30 years without reference to the court."

Within the space of 20 minutes Mr Justice Cantley sentenced the four men:

Martin Joseph O'Connell, aged 25, of Lower Market Street, Ennis, co Clare; Edward Butler, aged 28, of St Flannigan's Terrace, Limerick, and Harry Duggan, aged 24, of Feakle, co Clare, were each convicted on 20 charges and given 12 life sentences, 21 years for manslaughter, six 20 year sentences and one sentence of 18 years.

Hugh Doherty, aged 26, of Crossbank Road, Glasgow, was convicted on 18 charges and given 11 life sentences, 21 years for manslaughter, five sentences of 30 years and one of 18 years.

Three of the men spoke during the brief moments they were brought singly into court. Harry Duggan ran up the steps



Mrs Ross McWhirter, widow of the author (Diary, page 14)

from his cell into the dock, leant against the rail, faced the judge and said: "I am not listening to the judge passing sentence and then turned and shouted: "Up the Provos" before being led to his cell below the court. Hugh Doherty looked up at the public gallery to his sister and called: "Good luck, Mary."

The judge turned to Mr John

Martin O'Connell, merely listened to the judge passing sentence and then turned and shouted: "Up the Provos" before being led to his cell below the court. Hugh Doherty looked up at the public gallery to his sister and called: "Good luck, Mary."

The judge turned to Mr John

Mathew, chief Treasury counsel, who led for the Crown, and referred to the Balcombe Street siege, saying: "I take the view that the hostages' lives were perpetually in danger. If the police had broken in the terrorists would have murdered them merely for the sake of thwarting the police in their rescue."

"I have been dealing so far with criminals who call themselves soldiers, fighting and shooting unarmed men and murdering unprotected women, breaking up and throwing a bomb through a restaurant window before running away."

"I want now to commend men of true worth: unarmed policemen who faced and chased these criminals, and the bomb-disposal officers like Major Biddle, Major Henderson and Captain Cole, who staked their lives against the chance of being able to make a bomb safe for others."

The judge made special mention of two officers, Det Inspector Henry Dowdwell and Inspector John Furnell, who dodged gunfire from the four defendants after they had been cornered in Balcombe Street.

"I realize that there were other policemen who showed great courage and devotion to duty but were not identified during the trial", he said. I hope they will receive the recognition they undoubtedly deserve. The public is very fortunate to have the protection of men such as these."

Mrs McShane, a grandmother, had been found guilty of trying to persuade her mother, aged 36, to commit suicide. The jury was told that Mrs McShane owed more than £200,000 and had wanted her mother to die so that she might inherit her money.

Mrs McShane, of Landrake Manor, Lanhydrock, Cornwall, was convicted of attempting to aid, abet, counsel or procure the suicide of her mother, Mrs Edith Mott. The jury also found her guilty of attempting to cause her mother to take a drug so as to endanger her life.

The jury reached its verdicts after seeing a film secretly made by the police who recorded a visit by Mrs McShane to her mother. During a visit to a nursing home near Burgess Hill, Sussex, Mrs McShane gave her ailing mother a bunch of flowers and some Nembutal sleeping tablets to kill herself.

Mr Gerard Wright, QC, for the defence of Mrs McShane, said she was in very poor health. It was Mrs Mott herself who first put forward the idea of suicide and said that her death would benefit her two daughters.

"I do hope that in the course of this case the evidence has not justified the suggestion that whatever was done was done for money, just for greed, and no other purpose", he said.

Later, Mrs Pamela Large, who reported Mrs McShane to the police, said she was not considering seeing her solicitor about the will.

Inspector John Furnell (left), and Det Inspector Henry Dowdwell (centre), commanded by the judge, and Sergeant Philip McVeigh, who also confronted the gunmen, with some of the weapons produced during the trial.

Inspector John Furnell (left), and Det Inspector Henry Dowdwell (centre), commanded by the judge, and Sergeant Philip McVeigh, who also confronted the gunmen, with some of the weapons produced during the trial.

Shattered lives in the aftermath of the killings

By Clive Borrell  
The shattered lives and personal tragedies that followed in the wake of the bombers will probably never be fully recorded.

In tree-lined Campden Hill Square, Kensington, London, the full impact of one tragedy could immediately be felt. It was there on October 22, 1975, that a big bomb was left under the car belonging to Mr Hugh Fraser, the Conservative MP. It exploded when his neighbour, Professor Gordon Hamilton Fairley, aged 45, father of four children, took his dogs for an early-morning walk.

The bombers' innocent victim, Mr Hamilton Fairley, one of the country's leading experts in cancer research, spared time from his laboratory at St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, only for his family.

At his home, more than 15 months after his death, his widow, Daphne, a speech therapist who spends much of her time teaching children to overcome speech abnormalities, said: "I have just sold this house and I hope that I shall be able to use the end of this case to push me on as it were some time into the future. I cannot tell you how I feel but I have tried to express myself by writing down."

On a sheet of paper torn from a notebook, she continued: "I am not political in any way and still do not feel bitter towards Ireland or the Irish; but as a mother and someone who has always dealt with the problems of people in difficulties, it seems to me that the killing of other likeable children. These are being wasteful, and tragically destructive, and, indeed, often inept as well, without really achieving any end."

To kill leaders of the community, like the director of Dumont, is akin to say the least, to be morally and effectively helping to house, feed and clothe a lot of Irish families.

My husband had, I know, over the years unthinkingly tried to cure many Irish patients of cancer, as well as lecturing and teaching Irish students. Do their deaths make any common sense? It certainly causes innocent people, like ourselves, months if not years of numb, gaping sadness.

As an oral postscript Mrs Hamilton Fairley added: "I cannot feel satisfied for the people who killed Gordon. I can hardly feel anything any more. The children have taken it very hard; their father was such a loving, caring family man."

From Campden Hill Square one has to travel only a mile or so east to Balcombe Street, St Marylebone, to become aware of the six-day siege in the first-floor living room of Mr and Mrs John Matthews's flat.

On the night of December 6, 1975, Mr Matthews, aged 56, a Post Office supervisor, and his wife, Sheila, aged 53, decided to spend a quiet evening at home watching television. He

suddenly there was a terrific commotion outside and I opened the balcony door. I saw police cars up and down the street and some



Mrs Hamilton Fairley, widow of the cancer expert killed by a bomb, and Mr John Matthews, one of the Balcombe Street hostages.

What luck that Switzerland keeps reappearing on the holiday horizon — a complete Holiday World waiting to be explored...

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London W1V 3HG, Tel. 01-734 1921

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suddenly there was a terrific commotion outside and I opened the balcony door. I saw police cars up and down the street and some

officers were hiding behind their vehicles. One of them shouted to me to go back inside, as there were armed men about.

I did not know about and went inside. There was a ring at the door and I thought it was the police. I opened it. Instead it was these four young Irishmen, all carrying hand guns and one also had a machine gun.

For the next six days and five nights I was forced to lie on the settee while my wife was across the room curled up on an armchair.

From the moment they burst in until the second we were freed we could never be sure we would come out alive. It is still a nightmarish memory.

Relaxing, ironically, on the same leather settee, Mr Matthews added:

I can say it now, I feel sorry for those four young men. I cannot say the same for the things they sent them to Britain. They are the ones who should be in the dock.

We tried to talk to the gunmen and discover why they were treating us in such a way. That was almost fatal, because they became

very angry and began blinding us with the British, for just about everything that had gone wrong in the world since time began.

We did not dare to try to reason with them after that, just speaking when we were spoken to. They did not ill treat us in any physical way, in fact most of the time they behaved as if we were not there.

She had developed chronic back trouble while she was trussed up in the armchair and after the field telephone was lowered by the police from the upstairs flat some pain-killing drugs were passed to help her. But they did no good because she was getting hardly any food. Whenever any food was lowered to us the four men forced us to eat it or if they found the police had damaged or poisoned it. They were not taking any chances.

A strange thing happened while we were kept prisoner in our own flat: my wife and I found that we could communicate without actually speaking to each other. We found that we were passing messages to each other, on the messages of the flat, on an unnoticed movement of the body, which, of course, meant nothing to the others in the room.

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## WEST EUROPE



The King and Queen greeting Queen Sophia of Spain in the Vatican yesterday as King Juan Carlos looks on.

### ne praise King n Carlos

By Nicholas  
Feb 10  
Juan Carlos told the  
that Spaniards "pas-

sionately love liberty", family  
and the historic traditions  
of their religion.

The visit to Italy of the King  
and Queen Sophia is taking  
place in an atmosphere of re-  
markable cordiality. The left-  
wing Rome newspaper *La  
Repubblica* comments today that  
the Spanish King "is winning  
the respect of Europe" and  
that as little as six or seven  
months ago this visit to Italy

would have seemed out of the  
question.

"In seven months the scene  
has so changed that not only the  
Vatican but the Quirinal Palace  
has been opened to the King  
without fear of accusations  
from the democratic forces of  
receiving a usurper of a  
sovereignty which has still not  
been finally restored to the  
people", it declared.

The King and the Pope were

together for more than an hour.  
There is no doubt that they  
talked about the political  
changes in Spain and the recent  
agreement on modifications in  
formal relations between the  
Holy See and Madrid.

This was the first visit of a  
Spanish head of state to Italy  
and the Vatican for 54 years.  
After the papal audience, the  
King and Queen saw Cardinal  
Villot, the Secretary of State.

### Soares satisfied with entry ks terms set by Community

By David Wigg

Feb 10  
Dr Soares, the Portuguese  
Minister, indicated  
he was satisfied with  
the decision by the  
Commission to give a qual-  
ification to a Portuguese  
application to join the EEC.

He could not have expected

what was said in an interview

in the *Times*. The EEC  
ministers had set aside

such as association  
of considering an

application for full member-

status that was progress.

He made it clear that

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## EST EUROPE

## France warms to quiet Prime Minister in battle against inflation

From Charles Hargrove

Paris, Feb 10  
M Raymond Barre, the Prime Minister, has reason to be satisfied. His anti-inflation plan which he has doggedly defended for the past four months is beginning to show results.

His own quiet, determined personality and his competence have slowly but surely made their mark on public opinion. The economic expert of a couple of months ago has turned into a political figure of the front rank.

Some observers already consider that he, not President Giscard d'Estaing, represents the government's best hope of resisting the challenge of M Jacques Chirac, leader of the Gaullist Rassemblement and a former Prime Minister.

This is confirmed by the latest Sofres opinion poll. It shows that in the popularity stakes, M Barre has jumped to second place among the personalities of the Government majority with 47 points. This is a rise of 13 points since December, the most spectacular breakthrough recorded by Sofres.

He now comes immediately after Mme Veil, the Health Minister, who has topped the poll for months, and before Mme Giroud, the State Secretary for Culture, hitherto the runner-up.

The Prime Minister's main support comes from the Centrists and Independent Republicans. The Gaullists are somewhat less enthusiastic about him. But some Socialists have been won over, notably those who投 at voting for a Communist in the second ballot of the elections.

## L'Express staff support share deal

By Our Business News Staff

Proposals by Sir James Goldsmith's French master company to buy an important stake in L'Express, the French weekly news magazine, have won the backing of the magazine's editorial staff and shop floor workers. Barring unforeseen obstacles, the deal is expected to go through within the next seven or 10 days.

Broad agreement on terms has been reached between Sir James and M Jean-Jacques Servan-Schreiber, whose family interests control L'Express. It is expected that the purchase will be made by a subsidiary of Générale Occidentale, in which Sir James and his family have a holding of about a third.

In this respect the deal will parallel the recent purchase by Cavenham, the British foods group, which is 51 per cent controlled by Générale Occidentale, of just over a third of Eaverbrook Newspapers' non-voting capital. This was Sir James's first foray into the newspaper field.

L'Express, which has a circulation of about 500,000, is a profitable concern, making consolidated profits of about £1.5m a year.

Charles Hargrove writes from Paris: Sir James's stake in L'Express will be 45 per cent. The price is reported to be in the region of 65m francs (£7.6m).

M Servan-Schreiber is selling most of his shares to finance the launching of a new Paris daily on the lines of *The Financial Times*. Sir James would also have a financial interest in the project.

The fact that Sir James has both French and British nationality has facilitated the sale. Under the press laws, no foreigner can acquire a controlling interest in a French newspaper.

Hugh Clayton, page 12

## OVERSEAS

## Fairness of Delhi plot trial challenged

From Kuldip Nayar

Delhi, Feb 10

M George Fernandes, the Socialist leader, told a Delhi magistrate today that he and his colleagues were not being given a fair trial. They had not been allowed to meet their lawyers for seven and a half months after their arrest.

The main preoccupation of Frenchmen, according to the poll, remains rising prices, but it is less acute than it was. On the other hand, unemployment is catching up as a cause for concern.

Of those polled 29 per cent think the Government's price freeze is effective against 11 per cent in December. But 66 per cent still regard it as ineffective.

President Giscard d'Estaing benefits from the improved political and economic climate. His stock as a defender of public liberties has risen as a result of his repeated assertion that he will stay in office to defend those liberties if the left wins the parliamentary elections next year.

Even his reputation as a reformer has improved. But the most spectacular change is that whereas in December a majority distrusted his conduct of economic policy, the reverse is now the case.

*Le Figaro*, which published the findings of the poll, notes that M Chirac has lost ground since December and suggests that perhaps he has chosen the wrong fight in seeking election as mayor of Paris. Frenchmen show signs of thinking that the real battle is being fought over prices and not over the Paris town hall.

## Commission plan to cut dairy surplus

By Our Agricultural Correspondent

A freeze on milk prices paid to farmers and a devaluation of at least 8 per cent in the "green pound" are among proposals which the EEC Commission wants to put to Community agricultural ministers next week.

The Commissioners want a price rise on milk for consumers to be matched by a similar levy on farmers. The sum involved has been put provisionally at 23 per cent. Proceeds of the levy would be used to promote consumption and cut the EEC surplus of 10 per cent in dairy produce.

Whether the levy and price rise should be imposed simultaneously or one in April and the other in September has still to be decided. The Commission has dropped its plan to tax fish and vegetable oils used in margarine to compensate for the impact of a milk levy on the price of butter. It is to seek a small butter subsidy instead.

The commission, whose announcement has been delayed by its change of presidency and membership, wants member governments to accept changes in "green" currencies, the devices with which uniform Community farm prices are expressed in national coinage. It wants Britain to accept devaluation this year of between 8 and 10% per cent in two equal stages in April and mid-September.

A devaluation of 10 per cent, less than half of the gap between the "green pound" and the value of floating sterling, is estimated by the British Government to entail a rise of 2% per cent in food prices.

Hugh Clayton, page 12

## Mozambique railway network target for bombers

## Rhodesian raids across border may bring Cubans into battle

From Michael Ashford

Maputo, Feb 10

The increase in the number of Rhodesian incursions into Mozambique, ostensibly against guerrilla camps, may force the Mozambican Government to seek outside help in defending its borders.

The most recent attack took place a week ago, on the eve of the Frente Patria congress in Maputo. A heavily armed Rhodesian force was said to have attacked a train between Maputo and Chicalacala in the southern Gaza province, killing two civilians and injuring four.

There was another attack about the same time in the western-central province of Tete. The force was said to have penetrated to within eight miles of Tete City and temporarily cut the road link between there and the Cabo Sasay hydro-electric project 80 miles to the west. A road bridge between Cabo Sasay and the coast had already been destroyed in a raid last year.

Two other major incursions have been reported during the last six weeks. One, was at the end of December, when the Rhodesian Air Force was said to have bombed the area around Chitanga near the Rhodesian border. Another raid took place in the same region last month when a Rhodesian Air Force Canberra bomber was shot down. Parts of the wreckage are now on display in Maputo.

The attacks are taking a heavy toll on the country's rail system. Lines have been blown up and many locomotives have been damaged. The main railway repair yard in the capital is filled with damaged engines.

According to the Voice of Free Africa, an anti-Frelimo radio station broadcasting from Umtali, many of these attacks have been carried out by units belonging to the Mozambique United Front (Fumo) and not by the Rhodesian armed forces.

One answer could be the formation of an pan-African army to assist Mozambique, using experienced Nigerian troops as the nucleus. But the problem of creating such a force would be enormous.

"I fear the Mozambicans

will have to accept the inevitable," the diplomat remarked, "which means looking to Cuba or some similar country for help."

Meanwhile, the situation in the border area has been further unsettled by outbreaks of factional fighting in the guerrilla camps. It is understood that some camps have become little more than personal fiefs of the local guerrilla commanders and that fighters belonging to rival factions have either been killed or driven out.

Guerrillas have murdered seven more African tribesmen and two tribeswomen in the operational area.

The funeral today for the seven Roman Catholic missionaries murdered at the St Paul's Mission, near Salisbury, last week was marred here this morning when a small group of about five angry whites left the service and one man called out: "Why don't they arrest that black bastard?" He was referring to comments made during the service by the senior African priest in Rhodesia, Father Isidore Chikore, who had associated himself with a

Australian federal Parliament. The islanders would become Australian electors liable to the same taxes as Australians.

Announcing the appeal to the United Nations, Mr William Blucher, the senior councillor, said in a radio broadcast that the great majority of the people preferred their present status closely linked to Australia, but with a locally-elected authority governing Island affairs. Australia had declined to apply United Nations principles of self-determination and was unwilling to allow the islanders a referendum on the question.

He said most of the islanders were descended from the inhabitants of Pitcairn, further east in the Pacific, where the crew of the Royal Navy ship *Bounty* settled after their mutiny in 1789 against Captain William Bligh.—Reuter.

Norfolk, a non-self governing territory administered from Canberra, is a lush sub-tropical island about 1,000 miles east of Australia.

An Australian royal commission has recommended that the islanders be included in the electorate of Canberra, so they can be represented in the Aus

tralian federal Parliament. The islanders would become Australian electors liable to the same taxes as Australians.

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Boxer given new life term for 1966 murders

Paterson, New Jersey, Feb 10.—The boxer, Rubin "Hurricane" Carter, who was convicted at a fresh trial of murdering three people here in 1966, has been sentenced to three terms of life imprisonment.

Mr Carter, aged 39, once a contender for the world middle-weight title, and his sparring partner, John Artis, were granted a new trial after it

was disclosed that the prosecution withheld evidence from the defence at their 1967 trial when they were also found guilty.

Their cause was backed by a national campaign of fund-raising drives. Supporters included Bob Dylan and Joan Baez, the singers.

Before sentence was passed, Mr Carter told the court that he and Mr Artis, who also received three life sentences

had been twice convicted of the murders because they were black. He compared their treatment in the Paterson area with the position of Jews in Hitler's Germany.

They were charged with killing three whites in a bar at a time of racial tension here following the murder of a black bar owner by a white.—Reuter.

Drug addicts to die

Moscow, Feb 10.—A Georgia court has sentenced to death two members of a gang of drug addicts who carried out a series of violent crimes, including murder and robbery, according to the Georgia Communist Party newspaper, *Zaria Vostoka*.

Wheat finally developed, the cattle scheme will consist of 70 ranches: 40 in Kilak, West Nile district, 10 in the East Madi, and 20 more in the North Nile and West Madi districts.

Already delivered are 1,500 head of Boran breeding stock from Kenya.

Mr Peter Gaymer, who is in charge of the scheme, has an unusual career. His father

took him out of school at age of 14 because he was learning, and told him he was wasting your time money. As of Monday start work on the farm the years, he became a

farmer.

Someone had to be run the dairy project semi-derelict old ranc

Mr Gaymer is an Essex n

knows all the good fa

his country. Last Decem

ran up Mr George

and asked him who

would be prepared to

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## Mr Ian Smith happy with S Africa talks

From Our Correspondent

Cape Town, Feb 10

Mr Ian Smith, the Rhodesian Prime Minister, flew back to Salisbury from Cape Town yesterday after a three-hour meeting with Mr Vorster, the South African Prime Minister.

He said at the airport: "We believe the talks will help us. The talks were very congenial and we tended to see things along the same lines."

Mr Smith said he hoped there would be new initiatives towards settling Rhodesia's future. He was ready and willing to listen and talk to anyone offering "constructive suggestions". If outside efforts to settle failed, the Rhodesian Government would continue working towards a settlement internally.

Our Washington Correspondent writes: The Foreign Office now received the invitation from Rhodesia, reported *The Times* yesterday, inviting British MPs to investigate massacre at St Paul's Mi

While this is a matter for Parliament to decide, a man said yesterday that the Foreign Office did not think the all-party delegation was to succeed in identifying responsible for the murder.

Our Washington Correspondent writes: The guerrilla war in Rhodesia has claimed another 41 more lives. A security force communiqué today said that since February 8, another 18 guerrillas had been killed. Four African women and four African men were killed in the latest attack.

Meanwhile, the situation in the border area has been further unsettled by outbreaks of factional fighting in the guerrilla camps. It is understood that some camps have become little more than personal fiefs of the local guerrilla commanders and that fighters belonging to rival factions have either been killed or driven out.

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Feb 10.—Soviet in-  
sists today arrested Dr  
Dubcek, leader of the most  
prominent dissident group in the  
country. He was taken into  
a suburban Moscow  
prison after he returned  
from hiding in  
a week.

He came for him this  
morning at the home of Miss  
Alexeyeva, a fellow  
Miss Alexeyeva told  
her that the men,  
the uniform of the  
office and one in  
the door: "We're look-  
ing for those who think like  
her dissidents quickly  
a telegram of protest  
to the European and  
American states which  
reunited at  
the security confer-  
ence in Helsinki in 1975.

ogram said: "We re-  
quest as an event of  
significance as  
to the governments  
opinion of all coun-  
signed the Final Act  
in Helsinki."  
lov., a dissident  
man who worked  
until he was 1973 for  
scientist Dr  
charov, heads a group  
st May to monitor  
serves of human  
uses in the Helsinki  
—Reuter.

## Dubcek support for Czechoslovak human rights group

Vienna, Feb 10.—Mr. Alex-  
ander Dubcek, the ousted  
leader of the 1968 "Prague  
Spring" Government, has orally  
supported the Czechoslovak  
group behind the Charter 77  
human rights manifesto, it was  
reported in Vienna today.

The Austrian Socialist Party  
newspaper, *Arbeiter-Zeitung*,  
quoted a friend of Mr. Dubcek  
as saying that he had not  
learnt of the contents of the  
charter until very late and had  
been unable to sign it because  
he lives under strict police sur-  
veillance in Bratislava. But he  
had managed to indicate his  
support through an intermedi-  
ary.

Mr. Dubcek's verbal support  
for the charter was cited to  
Western correspondents by its  
authors as proof that they were  
not isolated from their former  
comrades in the "Prague  
Spring" movement, the *Arbeiter-Zeitung* said.

The Austrian Communist  
Party newspaper *Volkstimme*  
had claimed that Mr. Dubcek  
had refused to sign the charter.  
But sources in Prague  
close to Mr. Dubcek, said that  
the newspaper had not made  
any contact with him or with  
any member of his family.

According to the quoted in-  
termediary, Mr. Dubcek had  
said that the charter fully  
corresponded to what he had  
repeatedly expressed in his let-  
ters to the press.

*Arbeiter-Zeitung* said that  
with Mr. Dubcek's support,  
the prominent representatives  
of the "Prague Spring" sup-  
porting the charter was complete,  
with the exception

## Israel stays firm in Waldheim talks

From Eric Marsden  
Jerusalem, Feb 10

Dr Kurt Waldheim, Secretary-  
General of the United Nations,  
held five hours of talks with  
Israel's leaders today, but al-  
though officials said the meet-  
ing had "clarified the air",  
they brought no progress on  
ways of moving towards a  
peaceful solution in the Middle  
East.

Dr Waldheim, who was re-  
ported to have been upset on  
the eve of his visit by a statement  
by Mr. Allon, the Foreign  
Minister, that the United  
Nations would be given no role  
to play in peace talks, was given  
a cordial welcome. He held talks  
for three hours in the morning  
with Mr. Allon and his advisers,  
and in the evening spent two hours with Israel's  
negotiating team: Mr. Robin, the Prime Minister;  
Mr. Allon and Mr. Peres, the Defense Minister.

On leaving the Prime Minister's  
office, Dr Waldheim said he  
had been assured that Israel  
was ready to go to Geneva with-  
out delay under "certain circum-  
stances". The problem of  
Palestinian participation had  
not been solved and he was  
unable to predict a date for the  
conference.

Mr. Allon made it clear that  
the "circumstances" were that  
the Geneva conference must be  
reconvened on the original  
basis of December, 1973, which  
meant that it must be between  
Israel and the Arab states in  
adherence to Security Council  
resolution 338.

Dr Waldheim reported on his  
talks with Arab leaders, saying  
that all of them had empha-  
sized that the Palestine Liberation  
Organization must take  
part in the Geneva conference.

Mr. Yassir Arafat, the PLO  
leader, had told him that the  
PLO was ready to set up an  
independent state alongside  
Israel.

Some observers were predict-  
ing tonight that when Dr. Wald-  
heim reports back in Cairo  
tomorrow that he has been  
unable to find scope for com-  
promise between the Arab and  
Israel views on Palestinian  
representation at Geneva, the  
Arab states will call for a  
Security Council meeting on  
the subject.

Dr Waldheim arrived from  
Amman this morning in "UN  
One", a white-painted Fokker  
Friendship aircraft. He was  
making the first direct flight  
from the Jordanian capital to  
the Jerusalem airport at  
Kalandia since it was captured  
in the Six-Day War in 1967.

In informal exchanges on the  
tarmac, Mr. Allon went out of  
his way to make clear that Dr  
Waldheim was personally wel-  
come to Israel. Thanking him,  
Dr Waldheim said the purpose  
of his visit was to discuss the  
Middle East situation and "to  
find ways and means of resum-  
ing the negotiating process".

Dr Waldheim will not be  
meeting any leaders of the West  
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It renews allegations of mass  
arrests, illegal taxes, punitive  
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Mr. Allon headed the welcoming  
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Birsh, Tulkarm, Bethlehem, East  
Jaffa, Beit Sahur, Jericho,  
Hajjouh and Bir Zeit.

It renews allegations of mass  
arrests, illegal taxes, punitive  
fines and expropriation of land.

Mr. Allon headed the welcoming  
party, which also included  
General Haim Herzog, Israel's  
representative at the United  
Nations, Professor Shlomo  
Avineri, the Foreign Ministry  
director-general, and Mr. Teddy  
Kollek, the mayor of Jerusalem.

Lieutenant-General Enzo  
Silasvuo, Finnish commander  
of United Nations forces in the  
Middle East, led a United  
Nations reception party.

In informal exchanges on the  
tarmac, Mr. Allon went out of  
his way to make clear that Dr  
Waldheim was personally wel-  
come to Israel. Thanking him,  
Dr Waldheim said the purpose  
of his visit was to discuss the  
Middle East situation and "to  
find ways and means of resum-  
ing the negotiating process".

Dr Waldheim will not be  
meeting any leaders of the West  
Bank Arabs, but a petition has  
been submitted to him in the  
names of the municipalities of  
Nablus, Hebron, Ramallah,  
Birsh, Tulkarm, Bethlehem, East  
Jaffa, Beit Sahur, Jericho,  
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PARLIAMENT, February 10, 1977

## Third year the most difficult for pay restraint: PM hopes that impatience will not waste gains

## House of Commons

The Prime Minister said that if the people of Britain could accept another year of restrained restraint the same situation would be substantially lowered. But if the gains which had been made were thrown away through impatience now, added Mr Callaghan, the country would be heading for a vastly increased rate of inflation.

He was replying to Mr Kenneth Baker (City of Westminster, St. Margaret's, C) who asked if the Prime Minister was satisfied with the present policy of the Bank of England which seemed to be to encourage to keep interest rates high.

It's not in the interests of the economy (the said) because it attracts money we do not want and deters capital investment which we do want. The net result is to ensure that unemployment is nine months will be higher than it otherwise would have been.

Mr James Callaghan (Cardiff, South-East, Lab)—The level of sterling must be dependent on the rate of inflation to some extent, although it is not the only factor for a particular or on occasions a year or more.

Therefore, it would be our first task to ensure that the rate of inflation does not increase and substantially diminishes.

For the first time we shall manage to get through economic policies, especially in relation to industrial investment and regeneration and more especially to another round of wage agreements that will enable us to move Highs to introduce harmony, partnership and productivity than anything in the Bullock report?

Mr Callaghan—I would bring that to the Chancellor of the Exchequer. The Chancellor has been asked to bring all these matters can be considered.

I have often said that this third year on which we are asking the British people to embark will probably be the most difficult of all.

But there is no better way and nobody has been able to point it out, certainly not the Opposition.

Mr Norman Atkinson (Harrow, Tottenham, Lab)—Wage restraint

in this field, there is little doubt that the rate of inflation will be substantially lower.

This is thrown away as a result of impatience now, we shall be faced for a vastly increased rate of inflation.

Mr Nicholas Ridley (Gloucester and Tewkesbury, C) who asked if the Prime Minister was now in the present policy of the Bank of England which seemed to be to encourage to keep interest rates high.

It's not in the interests of the economy (the said) because it attracts money we do not want and deters capital investment which we do want. The net result is to ensure that unemployment is nine months will be higher than it otherwise would have been.

Mr Callaghan—Interest rates have come down from 15 per cent to 12 per cent. I trust that if we manage to keep on top of the inflation rate, the interest rates will be able to continue to come down.

But like the sterling rate, they will to some extent reflect the rate of inflation which is still our major enemy.

If we do not cure that, unemployment will go even higher. On the use of unemployment as an instrument, that is entirely false.

Mr David Steel (Leeds, South, Selby and Pickering) in considering the next stage of his discussions on incomes controls, will he consider exempting from restraint new profit-sharing schemes in industry of the kind that the Government has introduced to introduce harmony, partnership and productivity than anything in the Bullock report?

Mr Callaghan—I would bring that to the Chancellor of the Exchequer. The Chancellor has been asked to bring all these matters can be considered.

I have often said that this third year on which we are asking the British people to embark will probably be the most difficult of all.

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itself is not enough to keep down price inflation rates. We also need some control to make sure the country and trade unions get some benefit from the sacrifices they are being asked to make.

Will he bear in mind in the preliminary negotiations taking place that trade unions feel somewhat sick that it is they who are continuously being asked to make sacrifices and that their living standards are about to go down still further?

So will he bring confidence to those who are anxious soon that the Government intend to bring in price controls? This is the only way trade unions will consider phase three of the wages policy.

Mr Callaghan—I agree that the trade union leaders are going to have a difficult time this year in trying to convince their members of the benefit of this inevitable policy which must succeed.

But we must all work to that end and I intend to do all I can to make it a success.

It is right to say. But we all know the commodity prices and prices of imports of our raw materials are not to a large extent under our control. It was the quintupling of oil prices which led to a great deal of unemployment not only here but in the rest of the world.

Therefore, when we are considering the case of the control of prices, we must take these factors into account, too. But short of that, we shall take every step to ensure profit margins are not excessive and that prices are kept under control.

Mr Geoffrey Howe, chief Opposition spokesman on Treasury affairs (South, Surrey, C) asked if the Chancellor of the Exchequer would place with both sides and all these matters can be considered.

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But there is no better way and nobody has been able to point it out, certainly not the Opposition.

Mr Norman Atkinson (Harrow, Tottenham, Lab)—Wage restraint

## Court hearing only serves cause of IRA

Mr Roy Mason, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said the more that allegations of torture against Britain were pursued by the Irish at the European Court of Human Rights the more they served the cause of the Provisional IRA.

Mr James McCusker (Armagh, South, C) had asked if Mr Mason, who had given the opportunity to tell the Irish at the European Court of Human Rights that his Government was at least being hypocritical in pursuing the case through while some of his Armagh constituents were suffering similar torture in prison in Port Laoise.

Mr Mason—I do not think I would be as blunt as that with the Taoiseach. Our views have been placed in the record. The more this is publicised at the European Court the more it serves the cause of the Provisionals.

Some years ago we recognised that we had been guilty of ill-treatment of 14 prisoners. We admitted it. We have paid compensation to those 14. I would think that a first class example of mature democratic behaviour.

I would think that only the Provisionals could gain from this. (Cheers.)

## Next week

Business in the House of Commons MONDAY: Job Release Bill, second reading. Social Security (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill, second reading. TUESDAY: Job Release Bill, Committee stage. TUESDAY: European Communities Bill, Committee stage.

WEDNESDAY: European Communities Bill, second reading.

FRIDAY: Housing (Rental Persons) Bill, Read Two, Traffic Act 1960 (Amendment) Bill, second reading. Bills, second reading.

Business in the House of Lords TUESDAY: Patent Bill, Committee stage. Wednesday: Road Transport and Passengers Vehicles (Experimental Areas) Bill, second reading.

Wednesday: Employment Bill, second reading.

THURSDAY: Torts (Interference with Contractual Relations) Bill, second reading. Employment Bill, second reading.

Mr Mason—I appreciate what he said. The latter point is valid and he has made an honest approach to the matter. He and some of his friends are prepared to try to find ways of at least getting a devolved administration in Northern Ireland.

Those ideas are worth talking about before they "gel" into proposals that may be a farce to the others. Those are the ideas.

Mr Kevin McNamara (Kingston upon Hull Central, Lab)—It is not only the IRA that do not give a fig about devolution. The Taoiseach will welcome both his decision and also the note of caution about any undue optimism. It would be foolish to try and fill the Macrory gap with local government if that was to be used as an excuse to prevent any properly devolved government.

Mr Mason—Filling the Macrory gap would be a form of enhanced local government to the province. If the parties are prepared to talk to the provincial government to keep democracy alive in the yawning gap between the district councils in Northern Ireland and this House?

Mr Mason—There is a gap between local councils and parliamentary representation but in the course of direct rule the five ministers present in this House are doing their utmost to bridge that gap.

It would be far better to have their government run by their own politicians nearer to the people. The time is not yet opportune.

I am going through another round of discussions with the political parties and have made arrangements with the secretaries of the Alliance Party and the Democratic Unionist Party to meet them next week.

Mr John Watkinson (West Gloucestershire, Lab)—Can he say, as a result of the talks with the political parties, if the time is right if he sees any movement or development on the power-sharing front or whether he sees any acceptability across the broad spectrum of the political parties of administrative devolution?

Mr Mason—On our meetings so

far, either with the SDP or OUP—

no. There has been no willingness to move by the OUP leadership. They said they still stand by the majority convention report, although moving from previous positions they would like to see a little movement in local government. That would be willingly discussed if other parties were prepared to talk about it.

Mr Nicholas Baden (Wolverhampton, South-West, C)—It is unjust for Northern Ireland to continue to be so under-represented at Westminster so many years after the abolition of Stormont.

Mr Mason—That is not primarily for me, but I have explained to the political parties in Northern Ireland and the Northern Ireland Convention on the basis on which I would prefer the course to be a satisfactory devolved government which would pave the way for increased parliamentary representation in Northern Ireland.

Mr Robert Melish (Southwark, Bermondsey, Lab)—What is the future when certain Opposition MPs declare that they will never agree to power-sharing?

Mr Mason—Political parties or any one of the bodies that played a major role in Northern Ireland standing back in that way are inimical to the political development in Northern Ireland. They have some responsibility on their shoulders.

I expect them to rise above these narrow party differences and be prepared to defer to other political parties and be willing to discuss ways of finding a form of devolved government.

Mr Enoch Powell (South Down, UUUC)—The IRA and other terrorist organisations do not give a fig about devolved government in Northern Ireland and they would rather that there was not. All the political parties in Northern Ireland which have any substantial electoral support are represented in this House and their representatives in this House stand ready both to advise and to cooperate with him.

Mr Mason—I appreciate what he said. The latter point is valid and he has made an honest approach to the matter. He and some of his friends are prepared to try to find ways of at least getting a devolved administration in Northern Ireland.

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Mr Mason—On our meetings so

## Chair's ruling: new clause on devolution referendum held to be germane to Bill

When the committee stage of the Scotland and Wales Bill was reached, Mr Michael Macmillan (Kilmarnock, C) raised a point of order concerning a procedural motion in the name of Mr Michael Foot, Lord President and Leader of the House, amending the order of business for the committee stage in order to deal with new clause (Referenda in Scotland and Wales).

He submitted that in the selecting both the motion and the new clause the chair had departed from the rules established in strictly comparable circumstances.

In doing so (the said) we are establishing a new precedent and setting up beyond all doubt that amendments to any Bill before the House may make the act which is proposed changes in legislative procedure which would be contrary to constitutional practice.

Erskine May supported his contention.

Mr Michael Foot, Lord President, said large numbers of other MPs wanted a referendum, but they would be placed in an impossible position if they had to vote against the principle of a referendum in the middle of a Bill.

He said that the chair had made a mistake in not accepting the new clause.

Mr Michael Foot, Lord President, said he would be embarking on changing the constitution of this country into a Swiss constitution if it adopted the new clause.

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## Which way out of our educational uncertainties?

The theme of Rhodes Boyson "bring back the tests, one sure way to make education work" (*The Times*, December 30) holds a sufficient element of truth to appear attractive, without revealing the disaster such a policy would bring. A similar comment could be levelled at other "cure-all" schemes that have been pressed on schools in the past 15 years. The present debate will produce little of value unless some unpalatable truths are faced, the right questions asked, and it is realized that few slogan solutions work in education, or indeed anywhere else.

Despite its present clamour about schools, the British establishment have never taken universal secondary education seriously. For many, "high educational standards" implies Winchester, Oxbridge et al... But levels of attainment—particularly when dependent on entry by competition—are not the same as educational standards as such. Some of the greatest educational skills are probably developed and deployed in some classes for slow learners or where there are a significant proportion of "awkward" pupils who cannot be denied entry or consigned elsewhere; but unlike the medical profession who learn about medicine from the sick, esteem in teaching has been the reverse of the real priorities.

Too often today the "least experienced and least 'public'" teachers are assigned the most "difficult" classes, and promotion is out of clutches altogether. Who would send the least skilled engineer to service or repair the most delicate and fault-prone machine? In schools we do it every day—to human beings. If our approach to human relations in schools is so insensitive, we can

hardly be surprised at some of our industrial relations.

And yet some are looking to the schools for industrial and technical education. On improving our approach to technical matters a lot can be learned from the question "Why was Oundle the exception and not the rule?"

Colleges of education have had few supporters among experienced classroom teachers since the early 1960's, but few of their sternest critics would wish on them the limiting Boyson role of producing "teachers equipped with classroom skills and a body of knowledge and understanding of the established curriculum they had to teach". This may be part of any requirement; but on its own it is instruction, not education. The narrow brief of instruction has social class implications which are limiting and repressive, whereas education should be universal and liberating. Education is more about learning than teaching, lighting fires and filling pots.

Whatever the need for new educational certainties they cannot be met by yearning for the relative simplification of the old "classical" education, from which bright boys and girls were able to "escape" to higher things. Whatever virtues were found in elementary classrooms they were fundamentally educational and did not come from restrictive Acts of Parliament. The "elementary" curriculum was circumscribed by law and any uniformity imposed by the good of the "scholarship" or 11-plus was there because until 1944 school education proper was on probation. Before that date it was only available to those who could pay, or to the deserving poor.

muscular dystrophies are inherited diseases in which the muscles become progressively weaker and eventually lose virtually all power of contraction. Duchenne dystrophy, the most common variety, is found only in boys (because the defect is in one of the sex chromosomes) and in Britain about one in every 3,000 is affected. The baby seems quite normal at birth; only after 18 months to two years do symptoms develop, when the child's walking may be seen to be a little clumsy. Soon the mother notices that her child falls over more frequently than normal and that he cannot raise his legs high enough to run. As the boy grows his coordination may improve, but the weakness that started in his legs spreads to other muscular groups, and by the time he starts school he is obviously handicapped. Sometimes in the early teens the child becomes unable to walk and has to take to a wheelchair.

Eventually weakness of the



muscles in the chest affects respiration and leads to a succession of attacks of pneumonia and so to the final, fatal stage of the illness. The other less common variants of muscular dystrophy are mostly inherited in a different way and some may affect girls as well as boys. The age of onset is often later and the progression may be much less rapid. Some forms, such as myotonic dystrophy, do not shorten the life-span to any great extent, and affected individuals may have families.

Advice on family planning is, indeed, one of the most important aspects of the medical care of dystrophic patients and their relations. Clearly the parents of a child who develops muscular dystrophy need to know whether any later children they might have would be affected, and the apparently normal brothers, sisters, and cousins also need expert advice on their chance of being carriers of the abnormality. The first essential is accurate diag-

nosis—counselling about the outlook for the child and the genetic risks for his family cannot begin until the type of dystrophy is established for certain, and this may require laboratory tests as well as expert physical examination.

In Duchenne dystrophy the pattern of inheritance is clear: just as in haemophilia, the disease affects males but is transmitted by females. Healthy male relatives of a child with Duchenne dystrophy cannot be carriers, but his sisters have a 50 per cent chance of carrying the defective gene. Those who are carriers almost always have abnormal amounts of the enzyme creatine kinase in their blood. Genetic counselling is based on a combination of the results of repeated blood tests and a detailed family history, and the results are reassuringly reliable.

At the Institute of Child Health in London, for example, in the past ten years advice has been given to 71 women of childbearing age. Incurability does not, however, mean the disease is untreatable. There is no doubt that regular assessment, physiotherapy, and the judicious use of braces and orthopaedic operations can minimise the disabling contractures of the muscles and distortion of the bones of the spine that may otherwise occur, so keeping the child mobile for as long as possible. A trial is beginning at the Jerry Lewis Muscle Research Centre and the Department of Child Health at the Royal Postgraduate Medical School on the value of repeated physiotherapy in maintaining muscle strength. A programme of treatment along these lines is a great boost for the morale of the child and his parents; they need to know that the progress of the disease is to be challenged and delayed at every stage, and that full advantage will be taken of the muscle function that remains.

Furthermore there are hopeful signs on the horizon.

Research in Britain and elsewhere is moving ever closer to the identification of the exact nature of the genetic defect responsible for the muscular

failure. Long-term there is a real possibility that treatment will be possible by replacement of the missing gene. Meanwhile the effects of genetic counselling are beginning to be seen, keeping the child mobile for as long as possible. A trial is beginning at the Jerry Lewis Muscle Research Centre and the Department of Child Health at the Royal Postgraduate Medical School on the value of repeated physiotherapy in maintaining muscle strength. A programme of treatment along these lines is a great boost for the morale of the child and his parents; they need to know that the progress of the disease is to be challenged and delayed at every stage, and that full advantage will be taken of the muscle function that remains.

The best way of

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While new cases will continue to occur, full use of existing knowledge could keep their numbers to a minimum, but that means that every affected family must have access to a unit with a full range of specialist skills. Unfortunately (as is the case with every aspect of medicine at present) there is no prospect of filling the gaps in the service until the economic squeeze lifts from the NHS and medical research.

Nigel Spearing  
The author is Labour MP for Newham South.

It is easy to forget on 9 wet winter days that foot are still being pushed the drought of 1976. could not germinate and crops could not grow country is now left with stock of vegetables, of different quality, so that importing seems more, Canada and frozen peas, New Zealand.

The drought is only

that threatens to make

in food prices to even more severe the accelerating rise in the cost of living.

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Dr Tony Smith  
Medical Correspondent

Hugh C £10,250

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Bernard Levin

# What an innings, and what a scoop

The quarterly magazine was for so long an integral and essential part of British intellectual life that I am surprised that nobody seems to have comprehensively charted its rise and fall; there have been studies of particular journals (the *Quarterly* itself, for instance, and I think the *Edinburgh Review*, and not long ago there was a commemorative selection from one of the few significant survivors, the *Political Quarterly*), but as far as I know there is no general picture of the tradition. Yet the phenomenon of a literary form in which writers could easily spend 10,000 words at their leisure on some topic of wide interest, without departing from the distinctive requirements of periodical publication, deserves attention; at the very least, somebody ought to explain how the quarterly became so influential, and why it ceased to be.

Or rather: why it almost ceased to be. For there are a few still left, outside the field of purely learned journals, for the reader who seeks something more scholarly than the general press can provide, but not so intensely specialist

as to demand expert qualifications if it is to be understood. There is none, it is true, still publishing the wide range of literary and political topics that were once on offer, but there are some which till their particular field in suitably wide furrows.

And of these, one of the most consistently interesting and useful is this week celebrating its 100th issue; such longevity in an area strewn with so many financial and other mines is alone worth celebrating, but

*Survey: A Journal of East and West Studies* deserves praise and thanks for much more than merely continuing to exist, and today I want to roll a log for the magazine and for its indefatigably cheerful editor, Leopold Labeledz.

Labeledz, a Polish-born version of Mr Fezziwig (Labeledz means "swan" in Polish and anything that looks less like a swan than Leo would be hard to envisage), has not only kept *Survey* alive for a quarter of a century; he has kept it respected, influential and indispensable. And he has done this by treading, with exceptionally sure-footed instinct, the invisible line between the purely academic and the diffusely popular; I think it is true to say

that almost everything in *Survey* is of genuine use to scholars of East-West studies, yet at the same time of no less value and interest to the general reader.

A glance through the contents of the 100th number, which has for a general subtitle "The Future of East-West Relations", will make clear what I mean; doubly clear, as a matter of fact, because of the nearly 50 writers all but two are previous contributors to the magazine, many of them frequent and regular ones. Indeed, the breadth of subjects and interests implied by the by-line of names on the cover provides striking and eloquent testimony to the outstanding quality of the journal before the reader even opens it. A publication which includes work by Andrei Amalrik, Raymond Aron, Zbigniew Brzezinski, Maurice Cranston, Milovan Djilas, Leszek Kolakowski, Arnold Schapiro, Hugh Seton Watson, Andrei Sinyavsky and Mihail Sperber is not one that can be ignored, and a study of the editor's introduction, in which he looks back over some of the work he has printed, and some of the authors he has introduced to western readers, shows that the talents on show in this century number are

fully representative of those which have filled *Survey* for the previous 99. Let me get out of Leo's way for a paragraph or so and let him do his own boasting:

We began to describe the attempts to "destalinize" the Soviet cultural scene well before the 20th congress... We covered in detail the ferment of ideas which led to the Polish October and Hungarian revolution of 1956... We drew attention to the Sino-Soviet differences four years before the dispute came to the surface in 1963... We were the first to publish in English Sinyavsky and Amalrik... Among our various "firsts", we printed a number of texts by Solzhenitsyn, Sakharov, Nadezhda Mandelstam...

We devoted a special issue

to the intellectual ferment in Czechoslovakia two years before the Prague Spring...

Nor is *Survey* content to rest

even upon such laurels as these.

This 100th issue contains an

astonishing scoop, in the first

authentic and detailed account

of the fate of Ivan Maisky,

Soviet Ambassador to Britain from 1932 to 1943; Maisky survived precariously as Stalin's

blood-lust grew again towards

the end of the war, only to be

arrested a mere fortnight

before the monster's death.

(Owing to an unfortunate com-

bination of circumstances, he

was not released until, for

instance, the doctors arrested

at the same time—until he had

served 21 years in prison. But

he survived, and lived for

another twenty years, dying

peacefully in his bed, at the

age of 91, in 1975.)

The revelations about Maisky,

by Alexander Nekrich (who knew the ambassador well), also confirm and extend our knowledge of something much more important: Stalin's intention of instituting a fresh purge, in which the whole of the old guard of survivors—including Voroshilov, Kaganovich, Molotov and Nikoyan—were to be destroyed. The "doctors' plot" was the herald of this move, which was to start with the mass deportation of Soviet Jews to Siberia; rarely in history can so many have had such heartfelt reason to murmur *Felix oportet mortis* when Stalin died just as the wheels were beginning to turn.

The Nekrich article is the

most sensational in the 100th

issue, but there is an enormous amount of fascinating material besides. Raymond Aron, for instance, contributes under the title "Alexander Solzhenitsyn and European 1977", a amazingly revealing study of writer Solzhenitsyn, while still in Moscow, refused to give Stalin his half-hearted applause, now Castro has his unreserved, though short-lived, greeting, but never does he condemn the practice.

• In Andrew T. on Tuesday, it was a "Amnesty International 22 cases of fatal fig cases.

How sudden fame has changed the life of a master picture faker

## Tom Keating: portrait of the artist about to give up his L-plates



Tom Keating with one of his Constable copies

visited his old girl friend and partner Jane Kelly.

Otherwise he has been sitting in his cottage in Dedham feeling miserable, wondering what to do next and giving innumerable statements to the police. He seems to have struck up quite a friendship with Inspector Goodall of the Keating fakes that either he or the police have so far tracked down have been found through his help.

It has told the police what he knows of the dealings involving 30 or so of his works in the manner of Goya's self-portrait and his Renior Pastels that he had taken with him to show the Canadians. Meanwhile the inspector stood him a double brandy at the bar. Then they chauffeured him back to Suffolk

less and less keen on identifying possible "Keatings" that I show to him, as he is dismayed at the thought that his generosity should be a cause of nuisance and inconvenience to others. This appears simply not to have occurred to him at the start. For, the Palmers apart, all the Keating fakes that either I or the police have so far tracked down have been

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One hour after the sentences on Ross McWhirter's murderers were announced, his surviving twin, Norris, set about launching a biography he has written. The book, *Ross*, is to be published on Monday, and the press conference announcing it had been arranged before Christmas.

The coincidence delighted the publishers, but Norris McWhirter was guarded in answering questions about the sentences. "I would say that they were very much in line with what has become established for these sort of offences. I am not particularly surprised by them."

He said he was not an enthusiast for capital punishment. He understood arguments on both sides of the debate, which would be "circumstantial" and "internal".

He advised Ross's widow, Rosemary, against giving her reactions to the sentences or feelings about the convicted man. She said she did not want to anyway. Her plan in life was to get on as normally as possible which meant, for example, helping to raise £200,000 for the local Cheshire Home, singing in the local church choir and playing tennis.

Writing the book was "partly therapeutic and partly autobiographical", Norris said, "because we regarded all experience as shared experience". He had never, though, had anything to do with Self-Help, the organization offering rewards for information on

## The Times Diary

### A coincidence, handled with dignity

terrorists, which Ross set up shortly before his death.

"My misgivings were about the other people there. While Ross was alive he could obviously exercise some control. When he was dead, I did not feel I wanted to get involved in any way."

Did he fear for his own life? "There is no point in setting oneself up. But I have the feeling that if everyone were round with the idea that they should be immortal, nothing would ever get done. Obviously what has happened makes one more aware of the dangers". To the relief of all, someone then asked about the *Guinness Book of Records* entry on non-stop disc jockeying, and it turned into a more conventional book-launching.

An unusually frank admission about his driving skill comes from Douglas Hard, MP for Mid-Oxfordshire, who is quoted in the Oxford journal as saying: "For months I have been trying to get speed limits where I think they are badly needed—on the A40 at Risingshaw, on the A34 between Bedgebury and Yarnton, and at Weston on the Green. I always come up against the same stone wall."

### Deflated

It was another coincidence that Sir Harold Wilson was giving a speech at Canada House yesterday, during the week of the Hain's revelations about his administration. There was speculation beforehand about whether he would touch on the topic. From my past experience of him I thought he would, in a flip aside calculate to show that he did not take the row seriously.

I was wrong. He avoided any mention of it, perhaps an indication that he does take it seriously and finds it wounding. He looked sombre throughout and seemed quite deflated. There was none of the self-

confident bounce which he has exhibited since he resigned as Prime Minister—notably at the events surrounding the publication of his book only a few weeks ago.

The occasion was a lunch for the Grierson Memorial Trust—commemorating the late John Grierson, the Canadian master of the short film. Sir Harold read quickly and without much expression through a long, closely-typed script on the subject of short films. He attempted a couple of jokes, but with little conviction, and they fell flat. Sad.

Ding-a-ling

Has Shirley Williams considered including ancient Chinese music among the English and media in her proposed broad-based school leaving certificate? It would be a popular move with the schoolchildren of Leicestershire, who claim to be able to master the only schools' Chinese music orchestra in Europe.

The 15 players, aged between 12 and 16, were at the Great Britain-China Centre in London on Wednesday night to give a recital of some 1,200-year-old tunes before a select audience including the Chinese chargé d'affaires and his wife. Ancient Chinese tunes are quite pleasing to the ear, if a bit on the shore side, but ancient Chinese instruments, made in Hong Kong and available in London, are the very devil to keep in tune.

The children made a valiant attempt at *Wine Puppet and Music For A Thousand Autumns*, and probably felt much better when a girl from the Chinese Embassy, pressed into a solo performance on the flute, had similar difficulty. "I have not practised, but in the interests of friendship between the British and Chinese people, I shall have a go," she smiled.

Leicestershire's Chinese orchestra is the brainchild of Hugh Rowntree-Clifford, resources consultant to the local education authority, part of whose job is to introduce unusual projects. It forms part of an overall Chinese study programme in the county and has proved popular; last year the orchestra appeared with professional musicians at an international festival of oriental music at Durham. In the interests of closer international understanding, schoolchildren in Peking ought now to be taught the bagpipes.

Crushed

News from the laboratories of Marks and Spencer about my black velvet jacket, which had a worrying worn patch on one of the elbows. Scientists have diagnosed "pile-crushing", which, they say, is a common phenomenon. The remedy is to treat the affected area with steam, which they did under strictly controlled laboratory conditions (an electric kettle),

and the garment is now as good as new.

The M & S spokesman was a bit scathing about my complaint. "We've been selling that quality velvet for three or four years and we've never had trouble before," he said. "Any competent housewife should know how to treat that." I have always regarded myself as a competent houseperson, but until recently velvet was not a part of my life.

In any case, I am sorry if I cast entirely unjustified aspersions on the quality of the merchandise, and I am grateful to M & S for dealing with it so promptly.

### Bedtime story

The British Embassy in Paris has acquired a portrait of Pauline Borghese, the sister of Napoleon I, so that it now hangs in her former mansion. Princess Marie Louise, granddaughter of Queen Victoria, had a story about Pauline and her palace in her autobiography, *Memoirs of Six Reigns*.

A British Ambassador, who had not yet fully mastered the intricacies of the French language, was entertaining the French Prime Minister to dinner. Caught for conversation, he began: "Votre Excellence, savez-vous que je dors dans le lit de Pauline?" The Prime minister replied: "Parfaitement. Mais la vie privée de votre Excellence ne m'intéresse pas du tout."

which we economists "borrowing" rest could (and I stress from the anticipated £11,200 million, £10,000 million).

Serious: And why here's all to do with inflation? taxation. This means seems set fair for reduction in tax and unrivalled prosperity result of that, c. above the forecast. So the deficit is not known at what if ever, before next they will be able to the Parliament. A restricts further present session.

Since the freedom individual to exercise his heard before Parliament involved, the question must not be lightly

Lord C

The author was first raised last September at its

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Bill Sticker, the figure constantly been on hoardings up, my economics correspondent, about the latest Government borrowing figures: Serious: Just how encouraging are the latest figures? Sticker: It's a bit early to say. What they show is that revenue is sharply higher than in the most recent budget forecasts. This means that our deficit

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## THE GREAT DILEMMA

It could hardly be better to publish a book about the inscriptions and snags of incomes policy. Whatever the balance of advantage and disadvantage of administrative intervention in the normal market processes of pay setting—collective bargaining, can be little doubt that the stages decline with time and disadvantages multiply: a year or two of restraint is of no use; the policy requires careful record. We are at such a

stage that all incomes are mistaken at all times. The argument is vigorous, and provocative; and they scruple to impugn the views of some of those who as a different view or even to express the same view. The book is pitched at the level of the interested layman, who are no difficulty in following the development of the argument, although he may feel that being hectored rather than added to the authors' point of view.

British and Lilley are a negative reply to the fundamental questions of incomes policy. These are: Can ministerial pay structure be both justice and efficiency? Can the apparent conflict between employment and stability in the presence of collective bargaining be perfectly resolved by administrative controls over pay? Can the conflict sometimes be temporarily eased in the term by pay controls? Is indeed any such conflict first place?

case against what British and Lilley call "the vain pursuit of reward" is powerfully and should convince anyone has the remotest grasp of pay in a labour market and as ascetics. In a labour market, of course, wards, just or otherwise, be required anyway.

case against a permanent pay policy, designed to tame the threat to employers to price stability for which it is supposed to pose, is the most important and part of the book. The point is that, short of a live or enforced decision to embrace totalitarianism, as policies are bound to last a year or two because frustrate necessary market movements and deprive trade of their raison d'être. cover, in failing they bring authority of governments a rule of law into contempt, them against economic social forces which they control. It is noted that, the totalitarian countries have paid an even though different, price access) incomes policies consistently failed, where they have been tried without any discernible effect of inflation.

strong argument is rather in the book by being d with a dubious argument against a straw man escapes unscathed. The man is made to say, "But to admit that trade unionism is one of the factors affecting the sustainable level of employment—does not this a permanent incomes policy to persuade unions not to their members out of

work?" an argument which according to the authors "has frequently been propounded by The Times".

The Times has used this kind of argument for a temporary incomes policy, but not for a permanent incomes policy, since The Times has long regarded a permanent incomes policy as involving economic and political costs out of all proportion to any possible benefits. The Times has also discussed whether and what permanent institutional changes, but not pay controls, might tend to reduce the sustainable level of unemployment consistent with stable prices and a free society.

The authors then come to the more formidable antagonist who argues: "You have admitted that a monetary slowdown results in a 'transitional' increase in unemployment . . . because people will continue for a while to base their pricing—and wage-fixing policies on expectations created by previous inflationary experience. . . . Why not have temporary wage and price controls to cut short the learning process, so that pay and price decisions are adjusted downwards more quickly and fewer people are priced out of jobs?"

They have too short a way with him, arguing that "the important part of changing expectations about wages and price behaviour is the credibility of the government's policy of slower monetary expansion" and that anyway "in practice governments do not use controls as a complement to monetary policy but as a substitute for it". This appears to assume an improbable fascination in trade union circles with monetary theory and statistics.

The history of the past eighteen months, despite British and Lilley's assertions to the contrary (based on an uncharacteristic confusion of a tax reduction in the 1976 budget with monetary relaxation), argues against their thesis. If pay settlements, which had been running as high as 30 per cent in the summer of 1975, had not been abruptly restrained, then many more people would have priced themselves out of their jobs and the pressure to reflate (and to buttress the pound by import controls) would have been much stronger and we should not have had even the partially restrained monetary expansion that we have had.

It can still be argued against even a temporary incomes policy that what British and Lilley call "the price paid to obtain union consent", added to the rigidities, anomalies and progressive frustration of normal adjustments in the labour market, exceed the benefits, although the magnitudes cannot be measured at all precisely. It is, however, certain that the benefits are immediate and depressive, while the costs are progressive and cumulative. In present circumstances this probably argues for a return to free pay from next summer.

There remain the important questions whether there is or ever was any real problem for incomes policies to solve. The general theme of the argument in the book is that the problem has been invented by evil or diabolical men.

British and Lilley state categorically that "institutional factors (like trade union bargaining) . . . cannot determine the average level of money wages". Elsewhere, they also profess themselves sceptical whether unions ever have, though in theory they think they could have, contributed to the rising trend in unemployment over the past ten years or more by their exercise of a monopoly bargaining power.

## ing on Rockall

Terence Prittie

A Tipperry man may say I was by sport of February 4 on the invasion, in 1955, of the Rockall? As your article subject pointed out, Rockall is nearer to the coast of the Republic than to that of Great Britain (the nearest British territory, of course, is County London) and not any part of Scotland.

I sure that your readers will stand that landing a party of cemem on an uninhabited does not enforce a territorial it. For, whatever the British intent of 1955 believed, it is now committed—Motions Resolution 242 of to the doctrine of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by military force.

It would seem that a grievous was perpetrated in 1955. I should have landed, but cemem" but a party of White, servants, armed with nothing but bowler hats (or brollies, if any), remains uninhabited and it is impossible to hold a dozen there.

days of gunboat diplomacy. And Rockall was not seized by a Briton, but by Irish St. An. He was rather short and he called it the Island of the West.

ACE C. F. PRITTIE, Her Club, SW1.

ng the constitution

Sir: Mrs. Nixon

We pride ourselves on having written constitution and what

constitution we have is "flexible", and "flexible" by general belief is "strong". Flexible can bend but cannot be changed without being taken to pieces. The present devolution of the constitution to pieces without the constitution to pieces without the proper tools.

Constitutions are changed by conventions of all parties and of all interests, and of representatives of those who will have to make it work. Even in the comparatively simple conditions in Nigeria, proposals for changes went down to district level in the form of questions, and helpful answers resulted.

Changes in constitutions surely must be based on general agreement reached before the drafting of Bills on Royal Commissions are excellent and effective for their own purposes, but the changing of a constitution is a matter which in the end affects every soul living in the land, and all those souls waiting in the wings of the future, and consideration should surely be as widely based as possible.

The present Bill, to the onlooker, is crammed with inconsistencies and weaknesses and cannot possibly work in practice. It does not seem to me to be possible, as it is, to amend it to make it into a real working human instrument. If by any fortunate chance the Bill were to fail, I hope more sincerely that reconsideration will be on a grander and more inspired scale. It is important and inspiring now so lacking is required. I feel that Mr Steel is near the truth in some of his article today (February 7).

Yours sincerely,  
REW NIVEN,  
Hope Road,  
Deal,  
Kent.

February 7.

## Privacy and the media

From Mr Paul Sieghart

Sir, The Managing Director of Capital Radio (January 28) is right to worry about any law which might turn out to fetter the freedom of expression, whether in the press or on the air, or elsewhere. Yet neither he nor any responsible journalist would claim an unfettered right to infringe the privacy of any citizen unless it is for the public benefit, and I am sure he objects as strongly as anyone when that does happen.

He cites section 4(2) of the Independent Broadcasting Act as a bad law. That is a good argument against bad laws, but it is not an argument for having no law at all. We are bound by our international obligations to have laws to protect our citizens' right of privacy (as well as their right of free expression); but our privacy laws are still defective.

The present Bill, to the onlooker, is crammed with inconsistencies and weaknesses and cannot possibly work in practice. It does not seem to me to be possible, as it is, to amend it to make it into a real working human instrument. If by any fortunate chance the Bill were to fail, I hope more sincerely that reconsideration will be on a grander and more inspired scale. It is important and inspiring now so lacking is required. I feel that Mr Steel is near the truth in some of his article today (February 7).

Yours sincerely,  
REW NIVEN,  
Hope Road,  
Deal,  
Kent.  
February 7.

Teaching Community law

From Professor J. D. B. Mitchell

Sir, There are occasions when the Scottish universities lead the way. I am particularly pleased to comment on Mr Berlin's balanced article on Community law (The Times, February 2) that the subject has been taught at the honours level in this university since 1965. The significance of that law, whether the United Kingdom was in or out, was perceived. Since then the number of honours courses has increased as has postgraduate teaching and the first thesis dates from 1969. Now the Faculty of Law has established the elements of Community law as a component on an introductory law course which is compulsory for all law students.

Often the universities are criticized for being lagged, but there are times when they are far ahead of the profession.

I am, your obedient servant,  
JOHN D. B. MITCHELL,  
University of Edinburgh,  
Old College,  
South Bridge,  
Edinburgh.  
February 3.

## Punishing young offenders

From the Secretary of The Magistrates' Association

Sir, On February 4 you reported parliamentary exchanges under the heading "Magistrates not using all their powers to deal with vandals". It is not adequately realized that in imposing a fine, magistrates are required by statute to have regard to the means of the defendant. If a young man has smashed up property and then goes to be out of work or without means, what is the court to do? The maximum penalty for wilfully damaging property is a fine up to £400 and/or six months' imprisonment and the offender can be ordered to pay compensation. But if he is unemployed, this is often academic for a really heavy fine would be both unjust and unenforceable.

Yet the authors also say that "no one really knows just how important union monopoly is among the reasons for high unemployment in the United Kingdom". And repeatedly throughout the book it is stated and taken for granted that trade union bargaining can, does, has or might: "resist the rise in import prices and the resulting pressure on real incomes by claiming higher wages"; "feel cheated (by bad official forecasts) and so spark off the very wage explosion that is feared"; turn a £6 a week maximum into a £6 a week minimum; be one of the "social forces which are too powerful to outlaw"; and benefit from "some sort of early warning system to communicate to union leaders the wage implications of a given monetary policy". This does not sound like impotence.

There are few cases in which reports show that the hopeful alternative of community service would be appropriate, the other possibility is detention centre or imprisonment. Here Parliament has rightly imposed restrictions to ensure that no one is imprisoned lightly. The offender must have the chance to learn representation, the court should have a social enquiry report about him or her and if the offender is under 21, or over 21 and has not been in prison before, then the court must state its reasons for concluding that no other penalty would be appropriate. Everyone agrees that custody should be the last resort.

Much violence and vandalism comes from juveniles under 17 where the Children and Young Persons Act 1969 has deprived the courts of adequate power to deal effectively even with repeated offences. Eighteen months ago the all-party House of Commons Expenditure Committee unanimously recommended that, the second time round, juvenile courts should have power to make a secure care order but the Government White Paper of May 1976 conceded only that the courts should have power to make a recommendation (and that behind the scenes and not in open court) to the local authority social services.

In recent discussions involving this Association and the local authority Associations the Secretary of State for Social Services and the Home Secretary seemed unable to go any further. Until juvenile courts have adequate powers restored they are not to be blamed for their inability to stem rising juvenile delinquency.

Yours faithfully,  
A. J. BISHAW, Secretary,  
The Magistrates' Association,  
28 Fitzroy Square, W1.  
February 9.

## Incomes policies not the answer

The rule of law did not spread like wildfire through the jungle. Nor did traffic lights spread like wildfire through the private initiative of individual motorists. The limited liability company had to be legislated for; and in the days of real laissez-faire monopoly, cartels and trusts showed much more inclination to spread like wildfire than the institutions of a competitive market economy, which British and Lilley rightly approve.

The authors refer briefly and slightly to some institutional changes (such as "various types of workers' cooperatives, schemes of industrial democracy and profit-sharing or methods of job enrichment to replace the assembly line") which have been proposed in this context. They conclude triumphantly that "none of these trendy concepts have spread like wildfire through industry". But it is in the nature of changes designed to improve the functioning of a defective system that they are not self-promoting.

What is now needed is a careful attempt to measure how far, given a non-inflationary monetary policy, the monopolistic supply of labour affects unemployment and, if the quantum is large enough to cause concern, of the means by which collective bargaining can be modified. It is at least quite clear—and this incomes policies not to do so far as possible, that we would not feel disrespected for what we would see if we were.

I cannot quite agree, either, with

Mr David Berlin (February 9) that

it is all fault of the workers.

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What is now needed is a careful attempt to measure how far, given a non-inflationary monetary policy, the monopolistic supply of labour affects unemployment and, if the quantum is large enough to cause concern, of the means by which collective bargaining can be modified. It is at least quite clear—and this incomes policies not to do so far as possible, that we would not feel disrespected for what we would see if we were.

I cannot quite agree, either, with

Mr David Berlin (February 9) that

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## The motivation of management

From Lord Plowden

Sir, The report on "Motivation of British Management" published earlier this week by Opinion Research Centre (The Times, February 8), has aroused widespread interest and comment.

It is the subject of the greatest national concern. It would be most regrettable if the debate deteriorated into a destructive and divisive "them and us" argument.

So if I may, I would like to direct attention to what I believe is the heart of the matter.

The important thing for this country, which should take precedence over everything else, is the creation of more wealth. We cannot be quarrelling about the correct division of the existing cake but how to increase the size of the cake and keep on increasing it. This transcends political argument. It is as important to the Labour Party for its plans to improve social services to try to win the leaders who wish to increase the take home pay and the security of their members as it is to every other sector. More wealth benefits everybody.

It is industry and commerce which creates this wealth. We all have a vital stake in the success of industry in competing with Germany, Japan, the United States and others.

Nobody should try to put management and the shop floor at each other's throats. Both are on the same side. Both are vital and both are complementary. If we are to succeed in creating the extra wealth, from which new jobs, welfare, education, defence and, not least, national self-confidence all flow,

then we have to attract the best men into industry and keep them motivated.

It would be wrong to paint a too gloomy picture, but what the ORC survey has done with its factual investigation is to show that the morale of managers is at risk. Already too many feel that they do not have the status and the authority that their counterparts have in Western Europe and in North America. They feel that the pay scale in Britain is unappreciated by politicians, commentators and consequently by large sections of society.

The fact that economically managers have fared particularly badly in the past few years is no longer a master of dispute. The Prime Minister and the Chancellor both publicly accepted the basic case.

Leaving aside the question of whether they have been fairly treated or not, how best do we encourage a key group of men and women whose enthusiasm, dedication, imagination and sheer hard work are absolutely essential to the creation of wealth and prosperity?

I suggest two things. First, a start to the restoration of incentives by the reduction of direct taxation in the Budget. Second, a campaign by industry and government to ensure that the public understands the importance of the wealth-creating function of industry and commerce and the essential part played by management in that function.

Yours faithfully,  
PLOWDEN,  
Bridgewater House,  
Cleveland Row, St James's, SW1.

which unanimously agreed that any changes in the law to encourage worker participation in management should be subsidiary to the reforms in industrial relations legislation that they recommended. The majority of that commission did not recommend the appointment of "worker directors" and the minority that favoured it, and the TUC, believed that it should be on a voluntary basis only. Bullock dismisses this by saying, in effect, that the TUC has changed its mind! It is clear that others have not done so and the debate on Bullock should be extended to cover those other reforms which Donovan said must first be effected.

Yours faithfully,  
TOM BOARDMAN,  
The Manor House,  
Welford,  
Northampton.

From Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal

Sir, David Basnett has performed a useful service by defining what he anyway means by "industrial democracy" (article in Business News, February 2).

It is the priorities of his first two paragraphs which worry me. Surely the paramount need is to seek an increase in industrial efficiency. The resulting benefit to everyone will surely bring favourable conditions for the desirable objective of getting "workers to industry" and "industry to workers".

His other plea for a flexible approach would be even more telling if only he would recognize that "workers" include many who are not members of unions.

Yours, etc,  
STRATHCONA,  
House of Lords.

The British, Australian and New Zealand Governments retain 21 million dollars in the reserves of the British Phosphate Commissioners. In 1975 the Governments were prepared to use some of this money to settle the litigation. It still offers an honourable way out. The 21 million dollars should be paid to the Banabans at once without strings as some reparation for past wrongs.

Any prevarication by the British Government will not be acceptable to public or parliamentary opinion. It will compel the Banabans to turn to the Court of Appeal as the only hope of impressing on the British Government that their duties are enforceable in the courts. Such a judgment would come as no surprise. The only issue now is whether the Banabans will be compelled to ask the Court of Appeal to seek legal grounds on which unequivocal moral obligations of HMG might be legally enforceable, or whether the Governments who have taken steps from the beginning to discharge those obligations, will make a sufficiently generous ex gratia settlement. In so doing they would spare the Banabans further worry and expense, and themselves the odium of appearing to act in a mean and defensive way.

We have the honour, Sir, to be your obedient servants.

RE



## COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE  
February 10: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, on behalf of The Queen, laid an wreath at the Queen's Guard this morning.

The Prince of Wales was represented by Lieutenant-Colonel Sir John Miller at the Funeral Service for Mr A. A. Evans (late of the Welsh Guards) which was held at Catterham this afternoon.

By command of The Queen, the Lord Winterbottom (Lord in Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport, London, this morning upon the arrival of the Queen of Sweden and welcomed His Highness on behalf of His Majesty.

CLARENCE HOUSE  
February 10: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, Chancellor of the University of London, was present this evening at a Reception given by the President of the Union at the University of London Union, Aulet Street.

Ms Patrick Campbell-Preston and Captain Roland Grimsay were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE  
February 10: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, this afternoon visited the headquarters of the Royal British Legion and Cadet's Help, of which Her Royal Highness is President.

The Hon Davina Woodhouse was attending.

Her Royal Highness was represented by the Lord in Waiting and Ettrick at the Funeral Service for Mr William Wallace which was held at The Grosvenor Chapel, South Audley Street, this morning.

Mr Henry Allen very much regrets that owing to his being in the Middlesex Hospital, he was unable to be present at the memorial service for Colonel Charles Lorne Sayers.

**Deaths today**  
Sir John Arlott, 65; Air Chief Marshal Sir Denis Barnett, 71; the Hon. Mark Bonham Carter, 55; Sir Alexander Cairncross, 66; Sir Richard Dobson, 62; Air Commodore Sir James Easton, 61; Sir Vivian Fenton, 69; Professor Roy Fleisch, 61; Sir Michael Hain, 66; Sir Frederick Hough, 61; Sir Keith Holroyde, 73; Dr Donald Hunter, 79; Baroness Starkey, 34; Sir John Surtees, 43.

## Today's engagements

Exhibition: Pompeii AD79, illustrating life style of city destroyed by eruption, Royal Academy, 10-8.

Lecture: Electricity, Magnetism and Clocks by Charles Aged, Science Museum, 5-45.

Band concert by St Thomas the Apostle school, Peckham, Conference Hall, County Hall, 12-45-130.

Lunchtime Music: Roger Preston, Concert Hall, Guildhall School of Music and Drama, 1-10.

**Memorial service**

Viscount Trenchard  
A memorial service for Marshal of the Royal Air Force, founder of the Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund, was held in Westminster Abbey yesterday. The Dean of Westminster, the Very Rev Edward Carpenter, officiated, and a wreath of poppies was laid by Marshal of the RAF Sir Denis Spawforth, a vice-president of the Benevolent Fund. Those present included Viscount and Viscountess Trenchard, Viscount and Viscountess Wilton, Sir James G. P. Portlock, Sir Edward Stowton, Air Marshal Sir Augustus Walker, Air Vice-Marshal Sir Hugh Marshal Sir Paul Greville-Millington, Air Vice-Marshal Sir John (of Defence) and Mr J. H. Nelson.

**Museum library closure**  
The Caird Library, together with the reference section and allied research facilities, at the National Maritime Museum will be closed to the public, readers and researchers for an indefinite time, taking from next Monday to Saturday inclusive.

**25 years ago**  
From The Times of Monday, Feb 11, 1957

**Pleven plan in trouble**

The Pleven plan for a European army with all that it means for the unification of Europe, defence and European cooperation, is in serious trouble. Dr Adenauer, the West German Chancellor, whose own faith in the plan has never been questioned last week got the consent of the Bundestag to postpone the negotiations by three months, from April 4, 1957. He achieved this only by accepting as part of his government's policy a number of resolutions tabled by the coalition parties which will make the negotiations more difficult. These resolutions amount to a demand for absolute sovereignty in all relations with the western powers and would plainly endanger the negotiations for a new treaty by Germany and France, occupying themselves almost as much as those between Germany and France. Dr Adenauer has also to bear in mind that the Social Democrats, who command wide support in the country, are firmly and consistently in favour of a plan which would still violently oppose to the whole scheme. They do not hide their hope that they may force a general election on this issue.

## Church news

**Appointments**  
The Rev D. Hughes, Vicar of Risley, Rotherham, has been appointed to the Vicarage of Horbury, Simeon, Rotherham.

The Rev G. J. H. Williams, curate of St. Michael's, Biddulph, has been appointed to Vicar of St. Richard's, Lox Hall, Birmingham.

**Resignations**  
Canon G. O. Bennett, Vicar of Walsall, has resigned. Canon G. O. Bennett, Vicar of St. Michael's, Biddulph, has been appointed to Vicar of St. Michael's, Biddulph, with Highgate, Rotherham.

The Rev. J. A. H. Williams, Vicar of St. Michael's, Biddulph, has been appointed to Vicar of St. Michael's, Biddulph, with Highgate, Rotherham.

**LEGACIES, DONATIONS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS**

are urgently needed and will be gratefully received by the Secretary.

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Her Majesty The Queen  
Chairman: The Marquess of Normanby, M.B.E.

100, CHARLES SMITH ST., LONDON, SW1 3BU  
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## Upcoming marriages

Dr A. R. Atkinson and Miss S. M. Murdoch

The engagement is announced between Anthony, younger son of Mr and Mrs H. R. Atkinson, of Southport, Lancashire, and Susan, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs D. W. Murdoch, of Truro, Nova Scotia, Canada.

Mr L. Durrant and Mrs D. R. Bliss

The engagement is announced between Louis (Tim) Durrant, of 10 Matlock Court, Richmond, and Penelope, daughter of John Northcott, Bishop of Redditch, West Worthing.

Mr J. S. Gummer and Miss P. J. Gardner

The engagement is announced between John, eldest son of Canon and Mrs Selwyn Gummer, of Merton Down, Sussex, and Penelope, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs John Gardner, of Ealing.

Mr C. M. Hamer and Miss M. Pol-Roger

The engagement is announced between Charles, son of Colonel and Mrs Peter Hamer, of Oare Court, Hermitage, Berks, and Martine, daughter of the late Mr Roger and Miss G. Pol-Roger, of Epsom, Surrey.

Mr P. A. van Wyngaarden and Miss D. Y. Hargreaves

The engagement is announced between Peter, elder son of Mr and Mrs J. C. L. McRobert, of The Old House, Paisley, Renfrewshire.

## Marriages

Mr A. N. J. Hay and Miss V. J. Coats

Prince Michael of Kent was present at the marriage of Mr Andrew Hay and Miss Virginia Coats which took place at James's, Piccadilly, yesterday. Canon L. R. Skipper officiated.

The bride, who was given in morning dress, by her father, was attended by Lady Anne Seymour, Lady Louise FitzRoy, Kate Scarlett, Michael James Campbell and Christopher Bramwell. Mr Edward Hay was best man.

The reception was held at St James's Palace, and the honeymoon will be spent touring the Continent.

Mr C. A. R. Brown and Miss M. M. Renale

The marriage took place quietly on Saturday, February 5, in Bury, between Mr Charles Alexander Brown, elder son of the late Mr and Mrs Alexander Brown, and Miss Margaret Marion Renale, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Wilton J. Oldham, of Green Lanes, Auger, St Peter, Jersey. The Rev P. G. K. Mantor officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, wore a gown of cream silk and a garland of flowers in her hair. She carried a bouquet of freesias, orchids and hyacinth buds. Brett and Christopher Ringsell and the Hon. Alain Ringsell (sister of the bridegroom) attended her. The Rev Canon John Jones of the Bridgehead was best man.

A reception was held at Hotel Horizon, St Brides, and the honeymoon will be spent touring the Continent.

Mr J. R. Walker and Miss S. M. Black

The engagement is announced between Robert Charles Edwin, son of Mr and Mrs George Walker, of North Yorkshire, formerly of Goldsborough, Berwickshire, and Susan Mary, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. C. L. McRobert, of The Old House, Paisley, Renfrewshire.

and Mrs H. van Wyngaarden, of Frimley, Hampshire, and Linda, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs D. W. Hargreaves, of Wolsley House, Merton, Surrey, Dorking, Surrey.

Mr K. J. N. Meek and Miss C. R. McRitchie

The engagement is announced between Kingsley, younger son of Mr and Mrs C. L. Meek, of Heriot Row, Edinburgh, and Clare, only daughter of Professor D. A. and Dr Ruth McRitchie, of Richmond, Surrey.

The Rev P. J. M. Southwell and Miss A. M. Patterson

The engagement is announced between Peter, son of Group Captain and Mrs J. M. Southwell, of Oxfordshire, Dorset, and Ann, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs D. A. M. Patterson, of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada.

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## Luncheon

Sir Frederick Warner

Sir Frederick Warner, Chairman of the Process Plant Division of NEDO, was the principal guest at the British Industrial Power Survey's Control Association Manufacturers' Association's (GMCAL) annual luncheon held yesterday at the Café Royal, Regent Street. Mr John Lurens, Chief Executive of the George Kent Group Ltd, the association's president, was in the chair.

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# THE TIMES

## BUSINESS NEWS

### S government task force ges full competition r world shipping groups

ank Vogl, on, Feb 10, a report by the anti-trust division of the United Department of Justice's that the international conferences reduce growth, discourage innovation in the and represent "a wealth transfer from shipping services".

report, an extremely attack on the regulation of international shipping, concluded a year investigating alleged of international monopoly the chief companies on the North Atlantic is said to be the leading jury investigation ever mounted.

against the anti-

regulation have come

any European govern-

the British Government

instructions to ship-

companies that they

not cooperate with the

Department of Justice in this

the inquiry and the

port have been dis-

length here this

between American offi-

Mr Gerry Lachin,

the shipping policy

of the British Depart-

Trade.

report has been com-

a special task force

Mr Donald Flexner,

the anti-trust division's

industries section,

J. Rose, Deputy At-

torney-General for Anti-

trusts. Both men are

also involved in the

grand jury investi-

gation.

It would appear that the British Government fully supports

It concludes: "Conference power is not effectively constrained by market forces or by regulation." The Commission hoped, indeed, the evidence shows that current regulation may well have promoted, rather than hindered, cartelization of the industry.

Swearing changes in United States maritime law are urged. A fully competitive environment, the report says, could produce a more efficient industry that could offer lower rates.

It maintains that there is no validity to the argument made by the shipping conferences that a competitive system would produce ruinous competition and monopoly power for a few strong companies.

A competitive system will produce a more balanced overall situation with supply and demand being much closer together than is possible under the conference system, the report continues.

The present system of regulation has been shown to encourage wasteful service competition and to discourage cost reduction, thereby substantially raising the cost of shipping services."

American shipping experts believe that the Department of Justice is aiming to show that wide abuse of conference regulation has taken place and that this possible result of the grand jury investigation, taken together with the report, will prompt the Administration to make a radical review of maritime legislation and smash the conference system.

It would appear that the British Government fully supports

the conference system, disagrees with the conclusions of the report and says it has no evidence that the conferences have engaged in illegal acts.

The report points out that independent liners, which are not members of conferences or rate agreements, "do not have any significant restraining impact on the exercise of conference power".

It says rivalry between the different shipping conferences also fails to restrain the monopolies of the conferences because of collusion.

New entrants to the shipping business are said to have little chance of surviving outside of the conference network because of capital requirements, production, dual rate contracts, the practice of selling below cost (destroying competition), cargo preference laws, bilateralism and route subsidies".

The Department of Justice's task force claims that it has a vast amount of evidence to show that the shipping conferences raise rates above truly competitive levels. This means higher product costs for consumers, a clearly depressive effect on world trade and definite discouragement to those shippers who may wish to become more competitive through technical innovations.

It concludes that one way of improving the situation would be to disband the present system that permits the existence of conferences and make shipping companies "the subject of both the common law of common carriers and the anti-trust laws".

By Ronald Emmer  
Beer prices are being referred to the Price Commission.

Mr Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, said yesterday in a written Commons reply that because of the "high level of public concern" he was asking the Commission to examine the prices and margins in the manufacture and distribution in the United Kingdom of beer sold by retail for consumption on licensed premises" in order to establish the facts.

Effectively the reference covers all beer sales except those in supermarkets, grocers and off-licences, and some clubs.

Mr Hattersley has at pains to point out, however, that he was not prejudicing the issue. There

was no presumption, he said, that "prices are not justified or that there is evidence of price-fixing".

The brewing industry was

last night increased. There was speculation that Mr Hattersley would ask his friend, Mr Peter Balfour, vice-chairman of Allied Breweries, which last month announced a £164m investment programme, said that "pending the outcome of the inquiry" the group had no intention of reviewing its plans. The reference would create a period of uncertainty for the industry, he added.

The Brewers' Society said Mr Hattersley's reference was "a needless, time-wasting exercise" which would create a period of uncertainty for the industry. The reference would "reconsider its investment

and its profits for five years".

The industry was seeking to invest an average of £300m a year in each of the next three years, the society added.

Brewers were thoroughly

tired of being subject to official

inquiries, it said. In the past

decade the Prices and Incomes

Board, the Monopolies Commis-

sion, the EEC and the

European Commission had all examined various

aspects of the industry. At no

time, the Price Commission was

examining "prices of soft

drinks" sold in pubs.

Mr Hattersley has asked the

Commission to report by July

31 the date on which the legis-

lation under which the Commis-

sion is constituted expires.

He is also expected to make

other references to the Com-

mission during the next couple

of weeks for examination during

which will concern paint prices.

Ombudsman gives 'fit and proper' verdict

The 120-man team at the Department of Trade's insurance division has a delicate task administering the widening powers of supervision provided for under the Insurance Companies Act. It has to protect the public from the unscrupulous while at the same time ensuring the rights of individual insurance companies.

Sir Idwal Pugh, the Ombudsman, carried out three investigations of complaints about the exercise of the DoT's powers under the insurance companies legislation last year. In two cases, that of National Life Insurance and of a small mutual insurance association, Sir Idwal concluded that the Department had acted properly.

The DoT is, however, criticized for its "unsatisfactory" handling of the third case, that of Castle Life Assurance. Castle, incorporated in 1971 and authorized to trade as a life office in September 1973, became the first company ordered to stop taking new business under sections of the Insurance Companies Act. Restricting groups whose controller has been judged by the DoT not to be a "fit and proper" person.

Castle's architect, an actuary and for long a respected figure in the insurance industry, complained that the Department's action in declaring him to be "not a fit and proper person" was "unjustified and excessive". Although Sir Idwal rejects further complaints that a Department official showed personal prejudice against the actuary, and that the DoT deliberately delayed consideration of Castle's application for authorization, he does criticize certain aspects of the DoT's treatment of the affair.

The Commission recognized that the case has already been reviewed. But he feels that "the reconsideration itself was not satisfactory. Not only was the same advice which I have criticized... given by the same officials... but it was accompanied by subjective judgments backed by no convincing evidence."

Accordingly, Sir Idwal has called for a further full ministerial review of the case.

Control of Castle, renamed Igol in December 1974, has since passed to Mr Joseph Kaplan who, coincidentally, is taking his fight against a DoT judgment that he is not a "fit and proper person" to the European Commission of Human Rights this March. Mr Kaplan, who has described the DoT's behaviour in his case as a "vendetta", has focused criticism on the Department's powers, criticism echoed by Sir Keith Joseph who has said that "where such arbitrary power is given there is a special need to use it in a totally defensible way".

In his report Sir Idwal quotes the Parliamentary Under Secretary for Trade in 1973 saying "I hope I have shown that applications are never treated lightly or capriciously, but rather with all the seriousness which is appropriate."

A measure of this seriousness is shown by the fact that the DoT, which received 1,700 applications for authorization last year, has referred less than 100 cases for detailed investigation since 1967. In this group 52 applicants were eventually accepted, 26 withdrawn; 12 were refused authorization and in only nine cases covering just six companies was authorization revoked.

John Brennan

### Whisky: Japan hints at retaliation to curbs

From Peter Hazelhurst

Tokyo, Feb 10  
Britain may be asked to restrict its exports of Scotch whisky to Japan, its second largest market, in the face of the growing number of curbs against Japanese business activities in Europe, the Japanese government hinted today.

The warning, delivered only five days after Europe imposed a 20 per cent anti-dumping charge on Japanese bearings, gave official credence to reports that Japan's powerful Domestic Association of Distillers is using the EEC-Japan trade confrontation as an argument to wage a "war" against Scotch imports.

Bottled Scotch whisky now accounts for 8 per cent of the whisky market in Japan. Since

to take drastic steps to redress its lopsided trade balance described the threat as a "bolt out of the blue".

Hitting back at Europe's new strictures against Japanese car sales in Britain, Mr Hirotsugu Dan, director general of the Customs and Tariff Bureau of the Japanese Finance Ministry, pointed out that the volume of imported bottled Scotch increased seven-fold between 1971 and 1975.

Setting out his views in a column, "My advice to our friends in the EEC" in the Mainichi Daily News this morning, Mr Dan went on to declare:

Bottled Scotch whisky now accounts for 8 per cent of the whisky market in Japan. Since

Japan has been asked by Britain voluntarily to curb its exports to the United Kingdom because they account for 9 per cent of new registrations in Britain it may be time that Japan asked Britain to hold down its Scotch exports."

A West European diplomat said: "The domestic distillers make these noises every year but I never thought that a government official would back these views up as an apparent threat at this delicate stage."

In recent weeks the Japan Foreign Liquor Distillers Association has attacked EEC demands for a reduction in duties on imported whisky as a means of redressing the imbalances in trade.

Local distillers claim that

taxes on domestic whisky are higher than the duties levied on imported scotch.

Ronald Emmer writes: "The Scotch Whisky Association said last night that it had been examining for some time the growing pressure within Japan for retaliatory action against whisky. It pointed out that the increased penetration of the Japanese market since 1971 had occurred largely because it was only then that the DoT system, designed to aid the domestic Japanese industry recover from the effects of the war, was abolished. The association would like the Japanese to dismantle what are regarded as discriminatory

barriers against Scotch."

### Mergers in power sector opposed

By R. W. Shakespeare

Engineering union leaders have told the Government that they will firmly resist any mergers or takeovers in the power engineering sector. If merger proposals reported to be in the pipeline went ahead, "sanctions" would be imposed by the workers concerned.

This hard line resistance to a probable reorganization of the power sector, which would involve four large companies—GEC and C. A. Parsons in the turbine generating field, and Clarke Chapman and Babcock and Wilcox in the boilermaking and pipework sector—has already been spelled out to Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, by senior officials of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions.

Yesterday at its meeting in York, the confederation's national executive unanimously endorsed the stand.

Confederation representatives will now seek urgent meetings with senior management officials of the four companies to make the unions' views known.

After yesterday's meeting Mr Len Edmondson, president of the confederation, member of which represent 34,000 workers in the four companies, said: "Our past experience of mergers has been that they inevitably lead to large-scale cutbacks."

These industries are located in high unemployment areas and we are determined to resist anything that will cause more jobs to be lost. There is little doubt that sanctions will be imposed if any mergers or takeovers are proposed."

Some reports have suggested that merger plans under discussion would create two main power engineering organizations through the union of GEC with Parsons and Clark Chapman with Babcock and Wilcox, the National Enterprise Board having some involvement in each. Such a move, it has been estimated, might result in 25 per cent redundancy.

### Safety net withheld if reserves top \$6,750m

By David Blake

Britain will be able to draw on the "safety net" arranged to deal with the sterling balances only if its reserves are less than \$6,750m, Mr Blake stated yesterday.

Giving details of the safety scheme which came into action last Tuesday, the Chancellor replied that the United Kingdom would be able to draw on the \$3,600m fund set up by central bank governors whenever the level of official holdings of sterling balances fell below £2,165m which was the figure at which it stood on December 8, 1976.

But the limit on the level of reserves which emerged during the governors' meeting on Monday, would almost certainly mean that the United Kingdom would not be able to draw on the fund at which it stands.

Any rundown in sterling balances would almost certainly result in Britain's reserves being lowered to a level which would allow a drawing from the fund.

The agreement also specifies that after the first year of the scheme, only 75 per cent of the rundown in sterling balances can be matched by drawings from the "safety net" fund. The right to make a drawing can be rolled over from one month to another.

Drawings will be made in United States dollars, with bear interest at market-related rates, and will be made public at the time of monthly reserve figures.

Any sales of foreign currency bonds will be deducted from the £2,165m figure in deciding whether Britain can draw on the fund. So the actual trigger point is likely to be somewhat lower than that figure, if foreign holders decide to buy the bonds.

Details of these bonds will be announced later; but it now seems likely that they will be issued at a fixed rate of interest rather than a variable one, as some people had expected.

The limit is more of a protec-

### Colgate to buy Terry's All Gold

By Our Financial Staff

Trust Houses Forte plans to sell its chocolate manufacturing business, Joseph Terry & Sons, to the American Colgate Palmolive group for about £17.5m in cash.

Based at York, Terry, whose leading brand is All Gold, was acquired by Forte in 1963, and is still the only manufacturing company within the THF group.

Last year, against a poor trading background for chocolate makers because of the hot weather, Terry earned profits of £2m, on sales of £22m.

For Colgate Palmolive, which is described as "one of the world's leading producers and distributors of products intended for personal care, laundry and cleaning, sports and leisure activities and health care", this is the first venture into confectionery manufacture. It says it will maintain Terry as a self-contained unit.

The importance of this deal for THF has to be seen in the context of its agreement to buy the substantial J. Lyons hotel interests for £27.5m on deferred payment terms, details of which are expected to be disclosed next week.

Clearly, THF's decision to part with Terry is bound up with its need to fund the Lyons hotel purchase scheme.

Electrical contracting angry over Government refusal to exempt it from statutory rules

# Employer-union fight to keep disputes pact

By Maurice Corina  
A refusal by the Government to allow a joint industrial agreement on unfair dismissals to be exempted from statutory employment protection machinery has brought fierce protests from both unions and employers in the electrical contracting industry.

The industry went to the Government with the argument that it felt its procedure was superior to that conducted through industrial tribunals and that it had produced excellent industrial relations after a most troubled history.

The problem is that the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act, 1974, gives employees a statutory right to bypass the Joint Industry Board's procedures because of the availability of industrial tribunals and official arbitration and conciliation machinery, enhanced by the Employment Protection Act.

Because it feels that employees, unions and employers who at present reach amicable solutions will be forced "into antagonism across the floor of a court of law", the industry board wants

exemption under Section 30 of the 1974 Act. This allows the Government to make orders of exemption if satisfied that certain conditions are met.

Yesterday's statement contained that the Government's response had been to raise a great number of technical and drafting points on the industry's application for exemption.

The nub of the rejection, according to the industry, was contained in a letter saying the application "cast doubt on the original thinking behind the exclusion provision".

Employers and the union complain that while pursuing its claim for exemption, the joint board had at no time met with or corresponded with any member of Government. It had now gone to the Department of Employment to ensure ministers saw there were sound reasons for the application of a unique disputes procedure.

Protesting that Parliament would not have included an exemption provision if it was not intended that it would

be applied to suitable cases, the industry board said: "The Secretary of State cannot decide that a part of the law is, in his view, a mental aberration by Parliament and decide that he will not, therefore, operate that part of the law."

At the same time, an application which is a small way limited the burden upon the Arbitration, Conciliation and Advisory Service and industrial tribunals ought to be given every encouragement instead of every discouragement, the board added. The avowed aim of the Trade Union Act was for industries to develop first class procedures for avoiding disputes.

Nine years of operating the electrical contracting disputes agreement had led to a high degree of expertise and accountability, and it was a cornerstone of the industry's excellent relations that disputes were dealt with through the insistence on all sides that labour difficulties were handled by the industry board.

## Japan could raise ship prices 10pc in package deal with EEC

By Peter Hill  
Export prices of Japanese-built ships are expected to rise by between 5 and 10 per cent over the next few weeks as a result of Japan's pledge to assist the beleaguered European shipbuilding industry by enabling it to obtain a larger share of world orders.

This was the estimate made by Japanese government officials yesterday in Paris after a three-day meeting of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development's working party on shipbuilding where European governments grudgingly accepted Japan's proposal.

European governments had been pressing for a 50-50 sharing of world orders for new ships—which the Japanese rejected totally—and the Europeans agreed to the Japanese package with some reservations. The offer to increase export prices for a two-year period was agreed until the end of next

year forms the most important element of the package, which will be implemented shortly, although officials yesterday stressed that the eventual size of the increase would be decided in negotiations with Japanese shipbuilders.

Officials at the OECD conference indicated however that further price increases may be introduced if the initial increase proves to be insufficient to produce the hoped for diversion of orders from Japan to European yards.

The other elements of the Japanese package involve an offer to restrict ship sales to those European countries whose shipbuilding industries faced special difficulties and, if necessary, to introduce further reductions in working hours at shipyards in Japan if its share of world production rose above 50 per cent.

Mr Albert Gruebel, chairman of the working party, said after the final session that the

Japanese offer contained some "very positive points" and there had been agreement to proceed with discussions for as long as the crisis continued. He stressed, however, that the two sides still remained far apart on the possibility of sharing production with the EEC demand for a 50 per cent share still to be confirmed.

The committee failed to produce a joint statement on the latest session, which had been expected, and instead the OECD secretariat was asked to draft an interim progress report for further expert study.

The report is expected to stress the need for new machinery designed to detect imbalances, restore normal conditions of competition and accelerate the structural adaptation of the shipbuilding industries of OECD member countries. The next meeting of the committee is scheduled to take place at the end of next month.

By Malcolm Brown  
Lord Ryder, chairman of the National Enterprise Board, yesterday criticised the Confederation of British Industry for denigrating the board.

"Not to put too fine a point on it, it is not very helpful to us to read in the CBI's published report 'The Road to Recovery' that the NEB's interventionist powers could actively damage industry and must be repealed," Lord Ryder said.

The board had absolutely no compulsory powers, Lord Ryder said, while delivering the Stockton lecture at the London Business School.

"It has the power to purchase shares but only if it can persuade shareholders to sell. It has to act in accordance with the City Takeover Code, the requirements of the Stock Exchange and in consultation with the Office of Fair Trading. In this respect, therefore,

it is in exactly the same position as any company in the private sector."

The authors of the report, he said, should have found time to talk to the NEB and discovered more about what it was trying to do.

Turning to the Bullock report on industrial democracy, Lord Ryder implied that he could not be counted on to support the majority recommendations.

"Without getting into the debate on Bullock, one thing we can be sure of is that new arrangements can only be as effective as those who participate with them to be. The arrangements are such that the managers regard them as a hostile imposition, they simply will not work."

"Similarly if the arrangements appear to employees to pay only lip-service to the concept of industrial democracy, nothing will have been achieved."

From Mr Sydney Chapman  
Sir, The letter from Sir Hugh Wilson and presidents of the main professional institutes concerned with the built environment (January 31), expressing profound anxiety about the effects on the construction industry of the recent cuts in public sector capital spending, is welcome if somewhat overdone.

But to those of us who normally work directly in, or indirectly for, the construction industry (2.250,000 representing nearly 10 per cent of the total United Kingdom working population) such as the most significant fact in the letter was that the industry and its professions "are fragmented and cannot adopt a militant stand against the loss of jobs..."

Why not? I suggest there are two reasons why the world of construction does not have the influence it should in the corridors of power. The first is the geographical distribution of its workforce—spread evenly around the country. There are no "construction" seats as there are agricultural, mining or car manufacturing constituencies waiting to be won at the drop of an electoral promise or threat.

Sir Hugh and the rest of us can do little about this and a political consequence of our impotence is that government is prepared to pour hundreds of millions of pounds into Chrysler to prevent the risk of 20,000 being made redundant, but is not minded to raise a finger to help more than ten times that number of construction workers who are already unemployed.

The second reason is our inability to speak out clearly with one voice. Our influence upon Whitehall and Westminster

is thus significantly diminished. If you doubt this, then compare the political pressure that the 300,000 farmers can bring to bear upon our legislators—even though the annual value of their output is only half that of construction (currently £13,000m in spite of being in the midst of its worst recession since the war).

Of course, this analogy is too simple but the parallel is made to underline the fact that the hill farmer from Cumbria and the crop-sprayer in Cambridgeshire seem able to join together under the umbrella of the NFU in a way which seems impossible to the architect, builder and concrete.

I will only add, as a former MP, that the anti-viscous league has more overt influence on the House of Commons than the huge construction industry.

Lobbying may be distasteful to the construction industry professionals, but it is a political fact of life. The presidents of the Committees for Urban Environment could do no better than use their considerable standing and influence within their own institutes to bring them together and encourage other parts of the greatest industry in the country to unite into a confederation of construction and building (or some such other designation).

Only in this way will they attain influence on government.

Until they can do this, they may continue to wax eloquently after the recession has bitten deep into the industry, but they will never actually stop government in future from using construction as the easy regulator of the stop-go economic cycle.

Yours faithfully,  
SYDNEY CHAPMAN,  
151-153 Gloucester Terrace,  
London W2 6DX.  
January 31.

Factors in the pricing of gas and electricity

From Mr Bryan C. Smith  
Sir, I doubt if Mr Worham (January 31) would find many gas customers on his ride in the North Sea to the consumer, whereas with electricity some 85 per cent of the oil or coal used is dissipated in generation and distribution.

Even allowing for the greatest efficiency of most electrical appliances, gas remains overwhelming the more efficient overall. It is right that this fact should be reflected in the price since it

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Anomaly in armed forces' pensions

From Mr Alfred J. Cutler  
Sir, I read with interest the article by Sir Eric Sachs on "Why the armed forces are losing the bureaucratic battle over indexed pensions" (January 21). I agree with and fully support the points Sir Eric made, but as he dealt mainly with officers' pensions, may I point out the anomalies that also exist in the pensions of retired long-service NCOs of the Army and Royal Air Force, and senior ratings of the Royal Navy.

I retired from the Royal Navy in 1952 as a master-arms (Chief Petty Officer) after 24 years' service. My pension (before tax) is £63.43 per year, whilst a senior rating who retires now, receives £1,376 per year.

Sir Eric suggests, and I agree with him, that the "parity rule" is the fairest method of assessing pensions, this would give those who retired in the 1950s and 60s the same pension as those that retire at present, in the same rank. This would dispose of the 1971 Act and retail prices index links as pensions would then keep pace with those awarded each year.

I do not oppose the pensions awarded to the present-day members of the armed forces: indeed, I think these are still inadequate, but I would like to repeat a phrase of the present Government's equal opportunities for all. I hope the facts presented by Sir Eric have some effect, but I am pessimistic, as for many years we have pressed successive governments to change the system, without success:

3. that to change the basis now, now that for the first year the public pensions increase is greater than the increase in earnings, would keep those pensions lagging behind both earnings and prices.

There was no public outcry when the present pension link was introduced; there will be no outcry when earnings again

simply to cry "He fails I win".

Yours faithfully,

H. F. T. ALLAWA,

7 Steine Gardens,

Brighton, Sussex.

From Mr P. G. Nutt  
Sir, I am afraid that on Mr Robert (February 2), misprint at issue on of index linking public servants.

The problem is index (wages or provide the most treatment of public sector pensioners guaranteed index be defended when earnings are provided which is unfunded main part non The important therefore, is the scheme is free from index and account which control the funded schemes them from entering comparable commi

Finally, it is

remember, in all

versy created by

that criticism of

not be levelled

sector schemes,

the nationalised

fully funded and

to all disciplines

upon private secto

Yours faithfully,

P. G. NUNN,

2 Sheridans Place,

Roxborough Park,

Harrow, Middlese

Foundry can be enjoyable

From Mr H. Willis  
Sir, I have read a letter about Iro (February 1) with some summer school being in an iron to only say it was

all. Of course, the the and dirty, but no many other jobs avoided the worst man's heat wave on an early shift.

Many of the the describes sh occur, as the fact would not allow be run in this c from needing a d tinted glasses obtained in immediate request. During months I was t suffered sunburning, and I fo protective cloth w both comm effective.

Of course, the noisy, but not as disconcerting, and fact turned to employing deaf could not find jobs

I enjoyed the much and despi outside, made friends. The big and also tough a work selects a bunch of people v is a pleasure to w

I am sure that of modern foundr their work just Vulcan in his smit

Yours faithfully,  
H. W. BAUER,  
Repton School,  
Derbyshire

February 6.

processes. With natural gas hardly any of the energy con

test is lost on the way from gas customers on his ride in the North Sea to the consumer, whereas with electricity some 85 per cent of the oil or coal used is dissipated in generation and distribution.

Even allowing for the greatest efficiency of most electrical appliances, gas remains overwhelming the more efficient overall. It is right that this fact should be reflected in the price since it

leads the consumer choice which is a right one in ener

ation terms.

In addition, the place of imported mated before the increase to be saving some £235m a y balance of payment

RYAN C. SMITH,

Member for Marks

British Gas Corpora

326 High Holborn,

London WC1V 7FT.

White Child & Beney Limited

To our shareholders:

Keep WCB free

Do not be pressured into a hasty decision

Reject the inadequate price offered by Guinness

The Directors of White Child & Beney have taken all reasonable care to ensure that the facts stated and the opinions expressed here are fair and accurate. They jointly severally accept responsibility accordingly.

INTERIM

Dalgety

Unaudited Results for the Half Year Ended 31st December 1976

The Group has succeeded in marginally improving its first half-year's profits compared with the corresponding period in 1975/6.

These results would have been substantially better except for three factors. Firstly, the adverse effect on our malting operations of reduced demand from the distillers and the high barley prices resulting from the almost unprecedented drought and poor harvest in the U.K.; secondly, the lengthy and

expensive strike in the Californian frozen food industry which closed our plants for several weeks; and thirdly, the continuation of difficult trading conditions in Australia, which, however, are now showing signs of slow improvement.

The Group's better profit performance in New Zealand and Canada is expected to continue.

R. A. Withers—Chairman.

Half year to 31.12.76 £ million

Half year to 31.12.75 £ million

Year to 30.6.76 £ million

Year to 30.6.75 £ million

Half year to 31.12.76 £ million

Half year to 31.12.75 £ million

Year to 30.6.76 £ million

Year to 30.6.75 £ million

Half year to 31.12.76 £ million

Half year to 31.12.75 £ million

Year to 30.6.76 £ million

Year to 30.6.75 £ million

Half year to 31.12.76 £ million

Half year to 31.12.75 £ million

Year to 3

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

## Second thoughts on Morpeth

It's wrong at this stage to be off the Morpeth industrialisation proposals as a whole. The six months of discussion following publication of the exposure only half way through a steering group has so far given me more than a few written submissions, and it should not be forgotten that before the was produced extensive consultation was held with 120 local and that the steering group's subsequent presentation of a fair balance of views.

At the same time it is not that there is a powerful swell of opposition both within the accountancy and from perhaps it matters most—the directors in industry and have to implement a new system of pre-accounts. The purpose of the exposure draft is, of course, to sound out views of interested parties, the light of the opinions appearing to emerge it is improbable that the exposure draft can go through very extensive modification, the objections in differ widely, but certainly common threads are apparent. One is that proposed time scale for full inflation is too rapid. Some longer to discuss it would like to see it in stages. Others say it is wrong to introduce new system first for companies and then for

objections are not perfect fundamental nature, or is no shortage of these. The common feature that the Morpeth proposals are seen as too wide, attempting to embrace areas, often of detail instead of sticking where it is possible to fair measure of agreement. A particular source of the degree of subject-matter involved in the Morpeth proposal account, some finance directors being even more basic—such as whether there be any inflation-proof balance sheets or it should be restricted profit and loss accounts. It is, however, and a growing school of thought that wants to stick strict cost accounts, the current cost account being shown in

riying all of this would be a growing concern the complexity and confidentiality of the exposure if such views were really in strength, it could most of the assumptions in the Morpeth proposal into the melting pot.

### d Qualcast

### sting in dries

ies account for slightly in half of Birmid Qualcast employed but in weeks to last October 9 per cent of the profit interest) on 60 per cent of sales.

being the Aunt Sally industry—too much, too little investment—driven by foundries have come through a recession increased profits. Qualcast has been improving at Birmid's foundries in 9.2 per cent the pre-war to 9.4 per cent—and government encouragement a £40m assistance investment has been

a. Birmid's plans for of foundry investment, ten years, which started nine ago, the bulk of it is still to be spent. Post-war will come from the investment, but that will not



Mr. Rupert Withers, chairman of Dalgety: US losses hit net profits.

stocks leading the advance: a number of the higher coupon stocks have still failed to regain their peaks of a year ago.

### Sketchley/Johnson Logical but...

The logic of Sketchley's bid for Johnson Group Cleaners is not hard to find. As Sketchley says, the two companies do not overlap geographically, and a merger will not involve significant closures. Equally, there is no danger of a national monopoly being formed, since although the combined groups would have unrivalled national coverage, they would still account for less than a quarter of the very fragmented market.

However, the stock market seems unimpressed by logic at this stage sensing that this is only the first shot in a protracted bid battle. At 48p, up 18p yesterday, Johnson's shares have moved 41p ahead of Sketchley's bid. Unimpressed by an historic exit p/e ratio of just under nine and an offer that is pitched 24p below its net asset value Johnson's board is advising rejection. At this stage shareholders should take that advice.

### Dalgety A mixed picture

With pre-tax profits at £8.1m, some £1m below upper market estimates, Dalgety's shares started the day badly before ending up all square at 25p, where the prospective yield is 6.1 per cent.

But if profits were not inspiring, attributable profits (down from £3.9m to £2.8m) were even more so, following unforeseen losses in the United States which helped lift the tax rate from 46 per cent to 59 per cent. Something which should improve the second half.

Imported steel in the United States has proved difficult to move in the sluggish economic climate while the grain trade suffered a reaction after a good start to high prices. But the real damage was done by a month-long strike in the California frozen food industry, which closed the group's plants in part of September and October. The United States operations lost £200,000 against a profit of £600,000, on sales up from £41.2m to £47.7m.

Final 1975-76\* (1974-75)  
Capitalisation — (£44.2m)  
Sales £211.9m (£159.9m)  
Pre-tax profits £14.6m (£10.9m)  
Earnings per share 11p (8.1p)  
Dividend gross 7.67p (5.58p)  
\* 65 weeks

**Gilts**  
**'Shorts' lead the advance**

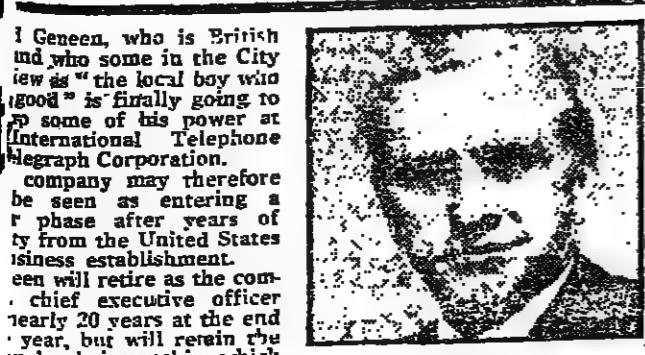
The Treasury Bill market may now be behaving more in line with Bank of England objectives—it looks as if tomorrow's Treasury Bill tender will probably be consistent with a 12 per cent MLR—but the steady advance at the short-end of the gilt market is clearly reflecting continuing confidence that short-term rates are likely to be allowed to fall further before too long.

That said, the short-end of the gilt market is also receiving a helping hand from the current technical situation. Two stocks—Treasury 6 per cent 1977 and Electricity 3 per cent 1974-77—fall due for redemption in early March and the general assumption is that the authorities are steadily "buying in".

On the one hand, then, there is the feeling that the authorities are actual or potential buyers. On the other, there is the realization that the redemption of these two stocks will considerably reduce the supply of low-coupon—high taxpayers'—stocks in the market. Hence the fact that it has been very much a case of the low coupon

Interim 1976-77 (1975-76)  
Capitalisation £62.4m  
Sales £376m (£290m)  
Pre-tax profits £8.1m (£7.8m)  
Dividend gross 8.06p (7.33p)

## Business Diary: Geneen, Hamilton and ITT • Accounting for taste



... and Lyman Hamilton.

and as having a sense of humour (attributes not normally applied to Geneen) and who greatly enjoys ice hockey (Geneen has no time for sports).

Geneen took a floundering ITT with sales of £70m and profits of £27m in 1969 to a position last year where its profits were £485m and its sales in excess of £11,700m. Working for ITT brought rich rewards for those who were willing to devote themselves totally to the company—and oblivion for those who did not.

In Brussels, the site of ITT's European head office, the power Geneen wielded resulted, for example, in special tax benefits for foreign residents ("the ITT law" it was once called) and permission to plant a monstrous office block in a beauti-

ful suburb. The company supported former President Nixon and was active in pre-Pinochet Chile.

Geneen seems to have recurred in controversy, it will be interesting to see if he can compose his own style. Will he, for example, be invited to the United States Business Council, which rebuffed Geneen's efforts to join?

### Off the panel

There was obviously some unfinished business when, two months ago, it was announced that Hill Samuel's David MacDonald was to succeed Martin Harris as director-general of the City's Panel on Takeovers and Mergers.

Harris, who had been a senior partner with accountants Price Waterhouse before joining the panel, had said: "I don't know yet quite what I will be doing when my term ends."

Well, now we know. When he leaves at the end of next month he will be going to Reckitt & Colman, where two months later he will be the executive director for finance and planning.

But the tying-up of this loose end merely unravels another. It now emerges that a month after Harris moves in, Reckitt & Colman chairman Arthur

Mason is to retire, although the board has yet to name a successor.

The deputy chairman and chief executive of the food, dyestuffs and pharmaceuticals group is James Clemmison.

If it is surprising that Harris

is not to return to Price Waterhouse, then the Reckitt & Colman job is the nearest alternative.

Harris was responsible for

the Reckitt & Colman audit in 1974, and Lyman Hamilton

and Lyman Hamilton.

... and Lyman Hamilton.

will be succeeded as chief executive by Lyman Hamilton, who is 17 years younger at 50, who is described as being considerate

It was during Harris's time at the panel that the body approved Reckitt & Colman's eventually successful £7m bid for the Winsor and Newton artists' materials interests.

He will take over from Sir Michael Colman, director of planning and control. Sir Michael is to assume control of the group's British business in the place of John West, who (and here's yet another loose end) is to take up a new overseas appointment—details of which will be announced as soon as possible."

Harris will be among political as well as business friends in his new job. The panel is a plank of the City's self-regulation policy.

**Taxing language**

Personal taxation accountants might care to ponder remarks about the Inland Revenue made by Sir Idwal Pugh today in his first report as "Ombudsman".

The new Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration could put a number of the breeders out of business were the taxmen and women to heed what he says.

Sir Idwal reports that many people complain to him about tax difficulties not because of some particular piece of maladministration by the Inland

Revenue but because they cannot understand what the department is about.

He says: "The complexities of tax law, coupled with the need for official explanations to be factually accurate, tend to encourage the use by tax offices of a 'tax language' that is often difficult for the average taxpayer to understand unless it is supported by professional advice."

This misuse of language, he goes on, is infectious as well as impenetrable. "Indeed," he complains, "I sometimes find it difficult to avoid 'tax language' in my own reports."

Sir Idwal has been a civil servant for 30 years and must therefore have either handled or even dispensed as much office as anybody.

His reformation, however, is particularly welcome, for it is only when a senior civil servant himself starts to complain about gobbledegook that other civil servants in departments like the Inland Revenue will start to pay any attention.

The most unlikely "Jubilee" product we've heard of so far is... a brick. A Derbyshire company has produced one whose colours are those associated with the coal-firing of clay as practised 25 years ago. We don't think it will catch on as a present to one's spouse.

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The most unlikely "Jubilee" product we've heard of so far is... a brick. A Derbyshire company has produced one whose colours are those associated with the coal-firing of clay as practised 25 years ago. We don't think it will catch on as a present to one's spouse.

Revenue but because they cannot understand what the department is about.

He says: "The complexities of tax law, coupled with the need for official explanations to be factually accurate, tend to encourage the use by tax offices of a 'tax language' that is often difficult for the average taxpayer to understand unless it is supported by professional advice."

This misuse of language, he goes on, is infectious as well as impenetrable. "Indeed," he complains, "I sometimes find it difficult to avoid 'tax language' in my own reports."

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# Aircraft industry boosts exports to a record £903m

By Arthur Reed  
Air Correspondent

Exports worth £903.9m were recorded by the British aircraft manufacturing industry in 1976, £102.6m above the record level for the previous year, according to figures issued yesterday by the Society of British Aerospace Companies.

The total was produced, "despite uncertainties resulting from parliamentary debate on government plans to nationalise a major part of the aerospace and guided weapons sector, and the continuing worldwide

recession in civil aerospace trade", the society said.

Export returns continued to reflect the industry's success in not only keeping pace with inflation, but also in some sectors substantially improving sales.

Two examples were guided weapons, where the British Aircraft Corporation had an order book for the Rapier missile of some £500m, and in aeronautical instruments which totalled nearly £40m in the year under review, compared with £14.3m in the previous year, and £8.4m in 1974.

## UK orders for machine tools start to revive

By Edward Townsend

Britain's machine tool industry is continuing to experience a healthy increase in orders. Latest figures show that in the three months to the end of November last year, the value of new orders had almost doubled compared with a year ago.

Much of the improvement has been due to steadily rising demands from United States customers who in the three months ordered more than £35m of machine tools, to account for almost two thirds of the new business received during the period. This represents a higher proportion than at any time in this decade.

Home orders were 109 per cent higher than a year earlier, while export contracts rose in

value by 71 per cent to £28m.

*Trade and Industry*, which publishes the figures, says that total sales of £94m for the three months showed an increase of 14 per cent over the previous three months. Although some of this is due to recovery from the summer holiday period and recent price increases, the latest figures are encouraging.

Home machine tool sales at £39.5m were 12 per cent up on a year earlier, but export sales at £24m, were down by 10 per cent.

The industry's total order book totalled £198m at the end of November and although this is slightly higher than the low level reached in July, the index has dropped more than 14 points.

The fifth round of oil production licences gave the oil sector a firmer-than-average look. The three most active stocks of the day were BP, up 11p to 925p, Bursmash 1p to 75p, and Tricentrol 4p to 140p. Shell ended 5p ahead at 515p, while others with North Sea interest to meet with demand were Clyde Petroleum 10p to 122p, Associated Newspapers 10p to 154p, Thomson Organisation 10p to 405p and Carless Capel 3p to 33p.

Breweries were softer after news of an inquiry into beer prices and profits. Among those

to carry cargo for a consortium of African states, it was announced in London yesterday.

### £1m deal with Libya

Contracts worth £930,000 have been placed by the ministry of industry and mineral resources of the Libyan Arab Republic with the education and training division of AEMT, Cambridge. More than 40 United Kingdom manufacturers will benefit from the contracts, which cover the supply of four packages of equipment for industrial training institutes.

### BP gains 65pc stake

British Petroleum will earn a 65 per cent interest in block 211/2, one of the most northerly in the British sector of the North Sea, by drilling a well on the acreage. The licence for the block is held by Enjay Holdings, owned by British, American and Canadian interests.

### £1m container order

Container orders worth more than £1m have been placed by the Liverpool-based Ocean Transport & Trading group with British Rail Engineering. The containers will be used by ships operating on the group's services between the United Kingdom and Yiddah, and will be built at BR's engineering works at Derby.

### Lump' law proposal

Whitehall is considering a proposal for amendment to the Statistics of Trade Act 1947 which would give powers to require firms to provide information about persons working as or for sub-contractors on their premises or sites. They would also have to furnish the names and addresses of sub-contractors. This practice, known as the "lump", has caused abuses in the building industry.

### Steel output up 15pc

British steel production last month rose by nearly 15 per cent compared with the corresponding period of last year. Figures from the British Steel Corporation and the British Independent Steel Producers' Association showed that average weekly production in January was 450,100 tonnes.

### RAF freighter sale

All ten of the Royal Air Force fleet of Short Belfast turbo-prop freighter aircraft have been sold

### Business appointments

## Reckitt and Colman makes directive changes

Mr M. M. Harris, at present director-general of the Panel on Takeovers and Mergers is to join the board of Reckitt and Colman when his term of office ends in May. Initially, the new appointment will be non-executive, but from June 1, he will become a full-time member with a view to assuming executive responsibility for finance and planning. Sir Michael Colman, at present director of planning and research, will become responsible for the United Kingdom side of the business in place of Mr J. J. West. Mr West will be taking an overseas appointment. The present chairman, Mr A. M. Mason, is to retire in May, but will remain a non-executive member of the board. Mr H. C. Atkinson will also be retiring.

Mr G. H. Wilson and Mr T. R. M. Kinsey, group financial director and chairman of the rod and components division, respectively of Delta Metal are to be appointed joint managing directors. From April 1, Mr Wilson will be responsible to the chairman and chief executive, Lord Colchester. Mr A. F. Thomas, deputy chairman, continues to be responsible for the overseas division and as chairman of Clive Discount Holdings, Mr T. R. M. Kinsey, appointed a joint managing director of Delta Metal.

Mr N. H. Chamberlain (left), the new chairman and chief executive of Clive Discount Holdings; Mr T. R. M. Kinsey, appointed a joint managing director of Delta Metal.

Mr N. H. Chamberlain has been made chairman and chief executive of Clive Discount Holdings and of Clive Investments. Mr A. C. Gibson has joined the board of Clive Discount Company. Mr P. G. Wreford remains non-executive deputy chairman of Clive Discount Holdings.

Mr Neville Hopwood, managing director of Manchester Evening News, has recently joined the board. Mr E. W. Webber, has been made an executive director and Mr A. H. Culver, a non-executive director of Delta Metal.

Mr D. C. J. Jessel, chairman of the managing director of Jessel Securities, is to become deputy chairman and chief executive of Sunley Investment Trust.

Mr J. H. Rainey, became financial controller, Mr F. O. Harding, group chief accountant, Mr E. W. Webber, has been made an executive director and Mr A. H. Culver, a non-executive director of Delta Metal.

Mr Alan Parry has been elected chairman of Lloyd's Insurance Brokers' Association in succession to Mr Peter Miller. Mr Henry White-Smith and Mr Jack Alston become deputy chairmen.

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## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

hands in  
ison as  
ck fends  
AE bid

William Webb  
ham, Feb 10

it just eight minutes to  
clear the way for the  
siness of the day. This  
mass demonstration of  
for the board's attempts  
off a £36m bid by  
ed Engineering.

50 shareholders and em-  
attending the midland  
and each other  
the microphone and  
their loyalty to Serck  
pulled all the emotional  
including an extract  
battlefield message to  
from Field Marshal  
ontgomery.

stewards reported that  
s of workers had voted  
to stave-off AE's  
talked of Serck's ex-  
labour relations record,  
ages, and sympathetic  
ment. They contrasted  
of affairs with reports  
Associated Engineers  
ries were at present  
g with strike problems,  
e traditional weapons  
ing-off a bid were not  
d. A shareholder sug-  
that the balance sheet  
ated the group's real  
a substantial amount  
t been revalued since

Robin Martin, chairman,  
repared statement, dis-  
when he met AE's  
for the first and only  
days ago, he was told  
rk's success was "the  
traction" and that AE  
to broaden its base.  
ther when chairman of  
broading his base  
ly meant that he was  
happy about his ex-  
kets but liked the look

AE's suggestion that  
d the cash necessary to  
Serck's potential in such  
markets as oil, gas and  
icals, Serck was  
investing heavily in these  
nd could finance them  
se. Indeed, the money  
now spending was  
the tip of the iceberg in  
ing expansion plans it  
n for itself".

## Briefly

AL INVESTMENT  
revenue of Cardinal  
int to 1976 from £500,000  
up from 4.61p (adjusted)  
(adjusted).

L FUNDS INV  
a (after tax) of General  
investment trust up to  
£228,000 for year to  
15. Gross dividend raised  
to 5.31p.

RILEY  
Spring and Steel Group  
its further 35,000 ord in  
Weybridge, bringing  
to 835,000 shares (21.16

ND MOSCOP  
nd Moscop (Canada), a  
y of Hunt and Moscop  
on, has bought Canada  
about £14,000 cash.

HOLDINGS  
profits for 1976, £112,000  
). Gross dividend, 12.55p

DROS  
rt Developments has in-  
ts shareholdings in Wilson  
15,000 shares to 2.40m  
er cent).

N MATTILLY  
Murray, a sole proprietor  
a hotel and holding  
Murray by selling 40,000  
olding now 4.1m shares  
er cent).

ES LAMBERT  
S. Lambert Group, the  
investor, has sold  
its local business interests  
a new insurance company,  
J. Kishmeh, a state of the  
Arab Emirates.

DALE GROUP  
half year to September  
£1.9m (£1.25m). Pre-  
£23,000 (£4,000). No  
payment (same).

S JOLTDAN  
Journal reports that  
Serck has a sharehold-  
143,239 shares (non-beneficial),  
52 shares (non-beneficial),  
423,512 shares (10.66 per  
P. J. S. Corby, one per  
cent of the ord.)

Bank Base  
Rates

lays Bank 121%  
old Credit 121%

London Secs 121%  
loare & Co. 121%

ds Bank 121%  
and Bank 121%  
Westminster 121%

minster Acc's 121%  
iley Trust 14%  
ians & Glynn's 121%  
ay deposits on sums of  
0,000 and under 121%  
0,000 9.5% over  
5,000 10%

Decline in metal  
prices: coffee  
comes off highs

Prices declined on the London Metal Exchange yesterday, except for lead. In silver, selling depressed the market in the short term as hedging touched off some short loss operations. At the afternoon close wire bars were £1.50 lower for cash and three months was also £1.50 down.

In silver, values drifted lower after light selling. Sentiment was undermined by New York's decline and the trend in base metals. There were losses of 1p to 2.10p in the ring.

Despite a \$16m advance in the Penang price, tin values fell back in a nervous market with outside demand. At the afternoon close standard cash was £42.50 down on the day and three months had fallen £2.50.

Zinc gave ground under sporadic liquidation and hedge selling as the market faced a worldwide physical demand. At the afternoon close cash was £7.25 down and three months had fallen £2.25.

Coffee prices fell back from Wednesday's high due to hedge selling and liquidation. At the afternoon close cash was £1.20 per lb and May was 2.25 lower. At the close March was £39 down on the day and May had fallen £5.50.

COPPER - Afternoon - Cash wire bars, £57.27-29 a metric ton, three months, £57.27-30 a metric ton.

Aluminum, £18.19-21, three months, £18.19-21. Copper wire bars, £82.67-90 a metric ton, including 267 options.

PALE GOLD - Cash wire bars, £305 per metric ton; April, £303.50; June, £303.50; July, £303.50; August, £303.50.

COCA - Prices declined - March, £21.45-62, per metric ton; May, £21.45-62; June, £21.45-62; July, £21.45-62; August, £21.45-62.

SOYABEAN MEAT was about steady, £156.50-55.70 a metric ton, three months, £156.50-55.70. The London dollar price of £1.10 was unchanged at £1.10 per ton.

Settlement, £1.09-10.50, three months, £1.09-10.50. Cash wire bars, £28.18-20.50 a metric ton, three months, £28.18-20.50.

CHILLI - Settlement, £1.09-10.50, three months, £1.09-10.50.

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SOYABEAN MEAT was about steady, £156.50-55.70 a metric ton, three months, £156.50-55.70. The London dollar price of £1.10 was unchanged at £1.10 per ton.

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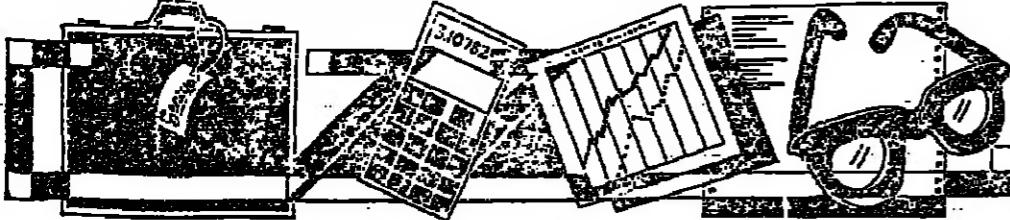
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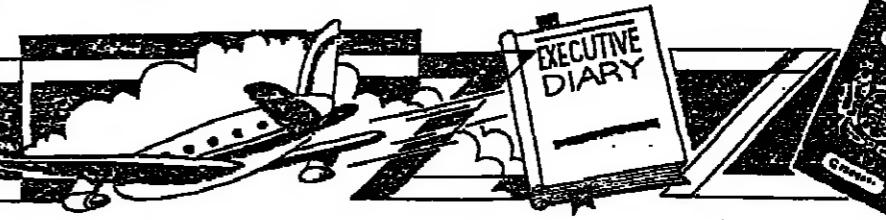
SOYABEAN MEAT was about steady, £156.50-55.70 a metric ton, three







£6,000 plus appointments



**FAIRWAY ENGINEERING LIMITED** is a Zambian based member of an International Group of Companies and a major importer of steel, industrial chemicals and mechanical engineering products.

We are currently inviting applications for the following positions:—

**MECHANICAL AND CHEMICAL SALES ENGINEERS—£8,750 + per annum**

The successful applicants will become members of an experienced sales team selling the products of our various world renowned principals. The minimum qualification for these positions is HNC or equivalent together with relevant sales experience.

**ACCOUNTANT—£9,000 + per annum**

We require a young accountant, ACA, ACCA or ACMA to take overall responsibility for the accounting function of the company and its subsidiaries including the production of monthly management information.

In addition to the salaries offered above the successful applicants will be offered employment on expatriate conditions of service which provide for:

1. Terminal gratuity equivalent to 25% of salary.
2. Recruitment and repatriation passages.
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6. Company car.
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## FINANCIAL CONTROLLER E.C.2

AGED  
30-40

Well established Marine Underwriters in the City of London invite applications for a newly created post as Financial Controller.

Within the next 5 years, the successful applicant will be expected to assume sole responsibility for a substantial investment portfolio and the entire accounting function, as successor to the present Financial Partner. This senior appointment will command at the outset a very substantial income, and cannot be filled by someone who does not already have proven commercial and managerial ability, and first class professional qualifications.

Detailed c.v. to Box No. 0332 J The Times

## Director of Administration and Legal Services

Salary: £11,312-£12,093

The Officer appointed will be responsible for Legal Services, Committee servicing and other functions, including personnel and management services, and including services. The person appointed will be a member of the Chief Officers' Management Team and the salary advertised includes recognition for this.

The successful applicant must be a Solicitor and must have wide administrative and managerial experience in a senior post at a high level.

Application forms and particulars of the appointment are available from the Chief Executive, Shire Hall, Mold. Applications must be submitted by 18th February, 1977.

**CLOUDY COUNTY COUNCIL**  
T. M. HAYDN REES, Chief Executive

## FACTORY MANAGER COLERAINE, NORTHERN IRELAND

Resulting from reorganisation within the company, Sperin Textiles Ltd., leading Warp Knitwear and one of Europe's most modern Knitting, Dyeing and Finishing Plants, seeks the services of a competent Factory Administrator.

The successful applicant will have had several years' experience in a similar capacity, but necessarily in textiles. He/she will be responsible directly to the Managing Director and will head a strong management team working with established production management.

The factory is situated in Coleraine, Northern Ireland, which is a delightful university town near the famous Antrim coast, offering excellent educational and recreational facilities. This is a most senior position and carries with it a salary and conditions commensurate with the post.

Replies in confidence, giving details, to Mr. K. R. Rogers, Managing Director, Sperin Textiles Ltd., Mortimer House, 46 Sacken Lane, London SW14 8LP.

# appointment of Director Research into Neurological Disorders

The Council invites applications for the post of full-time DIRECTOR of the MRC Unit in Newcastle upon Tyne for research into neurological disorders. The work of the Unit has been devoted mainly to studies in multiple sclerosis but it is now to be given wider terms of reference. The successful applicant will be a person of high scientific standing, (preferably medically qualified), an established reputation as an original scientific investigator, and proven ability to initiate and organise multidisciplinary research. The post is likely to prove attractive to an experimental neurologist or an experimental neuropathologist, probably with research interest in the pre-senile and senile dementias. The salary for a medically qualified Director, for whom an honorary clinical contract at consultant level will be sought, will be paid on the MRC clinical scale, equivalent to the NHS consultant grade; if an honorary clinical contract is not appropriate, the salary will be within the range for Council's Special Appointment's Grade which is equivalent to the University professorial range.

The Unit is housed in purpose-built research accommodation of approximately 10,000 sq ft (gross). A substantial research team with neurological expertise is already in post and the Council expects that the strong links that have already been established with the University of Newcastle upon Tyne will be maintained. The title and detailed programme of the Unit will be decided by the Council in the light of the research interests of the Director.

Further information may be obtained from Dr. A. V. Harrison, 20 Park Crescent, London NW1 4AU. Applications should be submitted to the Secretary of the Council at the same address, Tel. 01-521 1933 by 19 March 1977.



Medical Research Council

## Your international background could make you a highly paid Merrill Lynch account executive dealing with international stocks and bonds

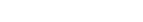
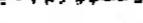
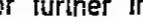
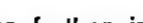
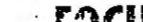
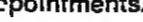
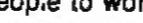
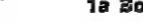
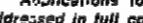
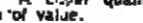
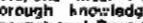
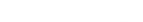
In your late 20's or early 30's? International by upbringing or birth? Educated first, let's say, at Princeton and then at the Sorbonne? Fluent in English, and in one or two other languages as well?

Most likely your degree is in Business Administration, Business Studies, Economics or Law. You have 4-5 years experience in an international financial field, or could be a rising star in marketing or a similar environment. Most definitely you are ambitious. A self-starter. Successful in your present job.

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For the benefit of the Lord is the  
sacrifice of wisdom all that  
the commandments. — 1 Sam  
13:10.

BIRTHS

BARR YOUNG.—On 10th February,  
1977, at St. John's Church, Liverpool,  
John, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard  
Barr Young, to Judy and  
CANDON.—On February 6th, to  
Liz and John Henry, a son, Edward

GREEN-ARMSTRONG.—On 3rd Feb-  
ruary, at St. John's Church, Liverpool,  
to Jaclyn (neé Thompson), to  
James.

HOLTY.—On 9th February, a  
daughter, Sarah, to Peter and  
Hudson.

HUMPHREY.—On 9th February,  
1977, at St. John's Church, Liverpool,  
to Jane (neé Rogers) and  
John, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard  
Humphrey, to their daughter, Linda.

JANSON.—On Feb. 9th, in London,  
to Richard and Linda, a daughter, Linda.

KELLY.—On 9th February, 1977,  
at St. George's Hospital, London,  
to Michael and Linda, a son, Mark.

MILLER.—On 10th February, a  
daughter, Elizabeth, to John and  
Muriel (neé Bedford).

NOLAN.—On 10th February, at  
the Hospital, Liverpool, to  
John and Elizabeth, a son, John.

THATCHER.—On Feb. 7th, in London,  
to Sir Edward and Lady Thatcher,  
to their daughter, Margaret, a  
son, David, and a daughter, Elizabeth.

STAFFORD.—On 9th February,  
to Dennis (neé Nankivell) and  
Linda, a son, Richard.

VOUTHAS.—On February 7th, to  
John and Linda, a daughter, Anna.

WATSON.—On 9th February, a  
daughter, Elizabeth, to John and  
Linda.

BIRTHDAYS

AND MY NAME, shall be called  
in the world, John. — 1 Cor. 1:30.

John (Hobby) Return.—John  
D. B. John (Hobby) Return  
adores you.—D. M.

CUTTY SARK CROSSWORD

The crossword clues for yesterday's Cutty Sark/Times National

Crossword Championships eliminator puzzle, some of which

were illegible, are reprinted below. The solution will be

published on February 17.

ACROSS

1 Polythene, theatrical  
costume (7).

5 Verses which with Schu-  
bert's overture could  
become a classic (7).

9 Henry in addition supplies  
material (5).

10 Dress one needed for this  
play? (9).

11 Son of Amos is father of  
Rizpah (6).

12 Nearly fell—must be soundly  
conducted (6).

14 Picked for major part in  
Greek tragedy (5).

15 Cobblers hammer on last,  
including other ones (9).

18 Existential Mode (4-5).

20 First heavenly sign con-  
founded these gods (4).

22 Oblique path of a villain in  
the back-land (6).

24 Fitting pastime for return-  
ing soldiers (6).

25 Story perhaps? (6).

26 Colours (3-6).

28 His literary correspondent  
was Yorkie (5).

30 Rimming round (7).

39 Of the front, rather than  
of the back, bone (7).

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 14,529

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